



FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The Paris papers of the past week have been chiefly occupied with the debate on the address in the French Chamber of Deputies, which commenced with an extraordinary but not altogether unexpected incident—that of M. de Lamartine announcing his intention of abandoning the Conservative party for ever, and throwing himself into the arms of the Opposition. What effect the secession of this gentleman may have upon the Government remains to be seen. His speeches have been listened to with pleasure, as admirable instances of the powers of a poetic imagination, but nobody has ever attached importance to him as a practical man of business. The Opposition journals hail his accession with delight, for they hope, now that he has abandoned his old friends, he will seek to make himself agreeable to his new ones, by plunging with them into all the wild doctrines which they profess and drawing largely upon his powers of eloquence in favour of the clamour against the ministry and against England.

The debate on Monday was adjourned at six o'clock, and on Tuesday M. David's amendment was of course the first thing proceeded with, but it was ultimately withdrawn by M. David, in favour of a new paragraph, suggested by M. Dumon in the name of the commission by whom the address was drawn up in the first instance. M. Berryer moved the omission of a portion of this new paragraph, and a division took place, but the numbers had not been ascertained when the courier left Paris. Of course nothing had taken place in respect of the right of search. On the paragraph relating to the right of search, notice had been given of no fewer than three amendments. The first of these was, as we are given to understand, considered the *cheval de bataille* of the Opposition; and probably upon this the strength of parties would be tried.

The crack speech of Saturday (the second day of the debate) was that of M. Agenor de Gasparin. It embraced almost everything that could be said in favour of the maintenance of the treaties of 1831 and 1833. He eloquently described the infamous nature of the slave trade, and showed that France would be wanting to her own dignity, to the love of freedom, which she boasted having given birth to Europe, if she allowed any other nation to take a more prominent part than herself in the suppression of the abominable traffic.

The speech of M. Gasparin produced a great effect. He was congratulated on every side when he left the tribune, and M. de Tocqueville, who replied to him, failed in his attempt to destroy the influence of his speech. As the *Journal des Débats* very properly says, M. de Gasparin spoke like a statesman, and M. de Tocqueville like a partisan.

The amendment having been discussed at great length, the President put it to the vote; but the house having twice divided into two apparently equal halves, the result was declared doubtful by the *scrutateurs*. The secret ballot was then demanded on all sides, and the operation commenced and proceeded amidst the greatest tumult. When it was concluded the President proclaimed the result. The number of voters was 409. In favour of the amendment, 206; against it, 203; majority against Ministers, 3. The discussion afterwards opened on the paragraph relative to the right of search.

A meeting took place of electors of the third arrondissement of Paris, on Saturday, for the purpose of examining the three candidates, Messrs. Taillandier, Decan, and Segantini, for the vacant place of deputy.

On Monday, the general discussion having closed, the paragraphs were debated *seriatim*. The first two were accepted without opposition. The next two were also adopted with little opposition. In the fifth paragraph, on the subject of Syria, M. David moved an amendment inviting the cabinet to vindicate the rights and privileges which were granted by the Porte to France in the reign of Francis I., and to resume the protection of the Christian population of Syria, which she had possessed from time immemorial. M. Guizot was left speaking in reply on the departure of the post.

The Paris journals of Monday publish a despatch from General Bugeaud, dated Algiers, Jan. 19, announcing the sudden and certainly unexpected appearance of Abd-el-Kader on the right bank of the Cheliff, at the head of a force (according to General Bugeaud) of 1000 cavalry and some hundreds of the tribes whom he had compelled to join him; but, according to the *Patrie*, of a host of Arabs who threw off their subjection to the French as soon as Abd-el-Kader had shown himself.

SPAIN.—From the Madrid papers of the 24th ult. we find that a rumour prevailed in that city of the probable appointment of Comte Lara, formerly Envoy to one of the South American republics to the office of Minister of Finance. It was generally thought that the pending disagreement between the courts of France and Spain would be satisfactorily arranged. Frequent Cabinet Councils continued to be held on the subject of the approaching elections. The illness of M. Calatrava had prevented him for some days from transacting business, but he had quite recovered at the date of the accounts now before us.

Private letters from the Hague, of the 28th ult., state that the Ministers had been engaged for three days consecutively in furnishing to the Secret Committee of the States General official explanations of the different bearings of the treaty with Belgium, concluded on the 5th of last November. It was expected that the treaty would be approved by a large majority in the States, notwithstanding the petition to which we have recently referred as having been signed by some commercial houses at Amsterdam against the ratification.

THE LEVANT.—We have received accounts from Constantinople to the 7th, Alexandria the 6th, and Smyrna the 9th ult. The supplement of the *Malta Times* of the 18th ult. gives the following summary of the news from Constantinople, Smyrna, Syria, &c.:—Great tranquillity reigns at Constantinople with regard to diplomatic affairs. The state of Servia alone occupies the minds of the ambassadors, but, as might be expected, all is very secret at the present. Affairs in Syria are comparatively satisfactory. From Alexandria, Jan. 6.—It is the prevailing opinion in Syria that the Governors for the Maronites and Druses have both been chosen, but hitherto the individuals on whom that office has been conferred are not publicly known. We learn that Shebil-el-Arsan, chief of the late insurgents among the Druses, has been to Damascus, and surrendered himself up to the Pacha of that city. The Governor-General of Syria, Assad Pacha, having heard of this affair, sent to the Pacha of Damascus to have him given up into his hands, that he might convey him to Constantinople, that the Grand Signior might do with him according to what he merits. The reports say that he is on his way to the capital. The day before yesterday we were all taken by surprise with the announcement of the death of Ahmet Fethi ex-Capitan Pacha. There are two rumours afloat here about the cause of his death; the one is, that he died of a fit of apoplexy; and the other, that he was poisoned. We suppose that, as it is a Turk who has died, most men are naturally inclined to circulate the latter, and the more so, as he has been signalized in the way of a certain party. Now that he is no more, Mehmet Ali will have no more to intercede on his behalf with the Sultan, nor to pay him a thousand pounds a year for being an eye-sore to him. There are complaints about the manner in which the packets are conducted between this place and Beyrouth. Lately there have been heavy complaints laid by the passengers, who, it is said, have been robbed of divers things they had, because the crew had not sufficient provisions aboard. The captain of the Dash has been sentenced to pay 100 dollars, it is said, for what the passengers have suffered during the last trip. If all these things be true, is it not high time for the British government to look into the affair, and to rectify what is wrong? On the 23rd ult. arrived at Suez the ship Clown, Captain Morris, from Calcutta, in 72 days. The cargo consists of tin, Bengal rice, pepper, nutmegs, cassia, safflower, tamarinds, tea, and a little indigo and cigars. We are informed that it is likely that she will return with a cargo of wheat. The Egyptian government offered for sale a few days ago some lots of cotton, but wanted 10 dollars, subject to the export duty and other charges. Every merchant, when they found out what they must give, left the place, being determined not to be caught in the trap again, which had sufficiently taught them what was for their interest in times gone by."

AMERICA.—UNITED STATES.—The packet-ship Ashburton, Captain Huston, which sailed from New York on the 11th, and the packet-ship Stephen Whitney, Captain Thompson, which sailed on the 14th ult., both arrived at Liverpool on Sunday; the former after passage of eighteen, and the latter after an extraordinary one of only fifteen days. The papers brought by these conveyances extend from the 3d to the 14th ult.

The new year's holidays had interrupted the proceedings of Congress. The bill making provision for the occupation and settlement of the Oregon territory had passed to an engrossment in the senate. "The subject," says the Washington correspondent of the *Daily Express*, "is a monomaniac with Mr. Lynn, of Mobile, who reported the bill from a select committee, and he is quite mad enough already to prosecute his bill *vice et armis*, and regardless of all attempts at negotiation. His full and honest faith is, that the country needs a war to awaken its downcast energies; and though with feelings awakened to the calamities of war, the welfare of the country, he thinks, would be better maintained by its prosecution than by its omission. It is understood here that the Oregon question is the subject of negotiation at London."

The *Times* of Tuesday, in reference to this subject, very naively suggests that, until such time as this question is amicably adjusted, it would be as well to keep the China fleet in sailing order.

The last debate on the bill took place on the 12th ult., when Mr. Benton delivered a long and warlike speech in favour of the appropriation and settlement of the territory.

On the 11th ult. the President *pro tem.* laid before the Senate a communication from the President of the United States, in answer to the resolution (adopted at the instance of Mr. Benton) calling upon him to state whether the quintuple treaty for the suppression of the slave trade has been communicated to the Government of the United States in any form; if so, by whom, and for what purpose, &c.; and also to show the origin of the American squadron.

The President, in reply, says—"These inquiries were particularly unexpected by me at the present time. As I had been so fortunate as to find my own views of the expediency of ratifying the late treaty with England confirmed by a vote of

somewhat more than four-fifths of the Senate present, I have hitherto flattered myself that the motives which influenced my conduct had been fully appreciated by those who advised and approved it; and that if a necessity should ever arise for any special explanation or defence in regard to those motives, it could scarcely be in the Assembly itself."

On the 9th ult. the Exchequer system came before the House of Representatives. It came up in the shape of a motion from Mr. Fillmore, the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, to print a report from the majority of the committee adverse to the Exchequer system recommended by the President, and which said that the bill "ought not to be adopted." A long debate followed. The impression was, that the bill would be rejected. On the 10th ult. Mr. Botts brought forward a series of resolutions impeaching the President for unconstitutional conduct. Several divisions took place, and the affair was finally disposed of by a vote of 127 to 83. After the division, Mr. Botts said he wiped his hands of the impeachment for ever.

The message of Governor Porter to the Legislature of Pennsylvania had been published. It clearly sets forth the financial condition of that important state, which is described as "one of the largest, wealthiest, and most populous states of the Union." The resources of the state, the Governor maintains, are fully adequate to meet all the demands against it, the principal as well as the interest of its enormous debt. Governor Porter recommends taxes and honesty, and scorns all idea of repudiation.

The court of inquiry into the mutiny on board the United States brig Somers was still sitting. All the officers of the vessel having been examined on the subject, the court was engaged in the examination of the seamen. The inquiry excited the liveliest attention.

A shocking affair had occurred in Columbus, Georgia. Colonel Hepburn and General McDougal had quarrelled. Hepburn sent McDougal a note, intended for a challenge, and then went to the office of the latter. On opening the door he said, "General, I have come;" when he received a pistol-ball in his left side, just below the heart, and died instantly.

Commercial and money matters were without any material change. The rate of exchange on London was quoted at 105½ to 105¾. Freights had risen in all the ports, there not having been a sufficient number of vessels to ship the produce for the European market.

We have accounts from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick by the Duke of Cornwall, from Halifax, after a short passage of fifteen days. The elections had terminated; the members returned were for the most part opposed to the legislative measures of the late administration. At Fredericton the military had been called out to suppress election riots. The electors of Newfoundland had returned an immense majority of Liberals. Nothing otherwise important had occurred. Halifax was lighted with gas for the first time on the 11th January.

CANADA.—The accounts from Canada report an improvement in the health of Sir C. Bagot, and his ultimate recovery was expected. The Home Government having left the choice of the capital to the Provincial Government, the latter had fixed on Montreal. Mr. Papineau was expected to return to the United States in the spring.

The news from Mexico was late and important. General Bustamante, of the department of San Luis, had, by a military movement, which had been in preparation some time, declared the dissolution of Congress, and announced the convocation of a new one by Santa Anna, to frame a constitution for the republic. General Caniglio had made the same declaration for his department. The news of these movements reached the city of Mexico by express. General Torre, the Minister of War, on receiving it, immediately made the events known to Congress. That body, it is stated, at once took a dignified stand, declaring that they would not listen to threats from any military commander, and would continue to sit until driven from the hall by force of arms. The movements of the Generals had caused a great sensation in the capital.

Commodore Jones, with the United States frigate Potomac and the corvette Cyane, had, in consequence of a report which had reached him that war had been declared by the United States against Mexico, occupied Monterey, a town in California. He gave up the town in two days, after having been assured of the falsity of the report. The Commodore had been recalled for his conduct.

Campbell continued to hold out against the Mexican land and sea forces. Skirmishes, which did not lead to important results on either side, were of frequent occurrence. The Mexican ranks are said to have been thinned by the ravages of the yellow fever.



THE COURT AND HAUT TON.

WINDSOR.—The Queen and Prince Albert walked in the Home Park, and afterwards attended divine service in the private chapel within the castle. Archdeacon Wilberforce officiated, and preached an excellent sermon from the 29th verse of the 8th chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew. At half-past three her Majesty and Prince Albert walked through the new grounds of the Home Park, returning to the castle through the orangery and east terrace. The august pair were attended by the whole of the suite and visitors at the castle. Sir Robert Peel left town, on Saturday, immediately after the termination of the examination of the assassin, M'Naughten, at Bow-street, for Windsor (proceeding to Slough by the Great Western Railway), and arrived at the castle a few minutes before three. He had an immediate audience of her Majesty, and remained at the castle upwards of an hour. The Queen was then informed, for the first time, that the murderer of Mr. Drummond had admitted that he had imagined it was Sir Robert Peel whom he had shot, and not the unfortunate gentleman who had fallen a victim to his inconsiderate attack. Her Majesty, upon this circumstance being related to her, is said to have evinced much emotion.

WINDSOR.—Monday.—Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert took their usual walking exercise. His Royal Highness Prince Albert afterwards went out shooting in the royal preserves in the Great Park. The royal party had excellent sport. Sir Henry Wheatley arrived at the castle on a visit to her Majesty.

WINDSOR.—Tuesday.—Her Majesty and Prince Albert walked out in the pleasure-ground. Earl and Countess Delawarr and the Ladies Elizabeth and Mary West, and Sir H. Wheatley took their departure. Archdeacon Wilberforce also left. Lord and Lady Cremorne, and Mr. and Mrs. Harcourt joined the royal dinner party.

WINDSOR.—Wednesday.—His Royal Highness Prince Albert went out shooting in the royal preserves in the neighbourhood of Cumberland Lodge, and had excellent sport. At half-past two o'clock her Majesty held a Privy Council. It was attended by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Duke of Wellington, Sir R. Peel, the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Wharncliffe, the Earl of Haddington, the Earl of Ripon, Lord Stanley, Sir E. Knatchbull, Sir Henry Hardinge, the Earl Delawarr, and the Earl of Jersey. The Hon. W. Bathurst attended as the Clerk of the Council. At the Council Sir Charles Metcalfe was sworn in as Governor-General of Canada. The whole of the Ministers took their departure immediately after the Council broke up. The list of Sheriffs was appointed at the Council. Her Majesty rode out in the park in a pony phæton, driven by his Royal Highness Prince Albert. Colonel Wyldes was in attendance on horseback. The royal dinner party included the following personages:—Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Countess of Charlemont, Lady F. Howard, the Hon. Misses Stanley and Hamilton, the Earl of Hardwick, Colonel Wyldes, Sir F. Stovin, Sir George and Lady Couper, Mr. Stanley, the Hon. C. Murray, and Dr. Pretorius.

The Duke of Wellington, Sir R. Peel, the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Wharncliffe, the Earls of Haddington and Jersey, Lord Stanley, Sir H. Hardinge, and Sir E. Knatchbull, went from town to attend the Council by a special train on the Great Western Railway.

After the Council the same Ministers and Officers of State, together with the Earl Delawarr and the Hon. W. Bathurst, took their departure from Windsor Castle for Slough, and left that station soon after four o'clock for the Paddington Terminus, the train conveying the party in twenty-three minutes.

State Parliamentary dinners were given on Wednesday evening by the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel, at their respective residences; by the former to a numerous party of peers, and by the latter to a large party of members of the House of Commons. At both banquets the guests appeared in court dresses, the members of Orders of Knighthood wearing their respective ensigns. His grace and the right hon. baronet read the royal speech to their visitors during the evening. At the Duke of Wellington's there were present—The Lord Chancellor; Dukes of Cleveland, Beaufort, Buckingham, and Buccleuch; Marquises of Bute, Salisbury, Exeter, and Abercorn; Earls of Liverpool, Delawarr, Devon, Egmont, Powis, Cardigan, Clare, Wicklow, Bathurst, Shaftesbury, Verulam, Talbot, Rosedale, Maryborough, Forester, Wharncliffe, Heytesbury, Ashburton, &c. The invites to Sir R. Peel's dinner included—The Speaker of the House of Commons, Lord Courtenay and Mr. P. W. S. Miles; Earl Jermyn; Lords Eliot, Ernest Bruce, Granville Somerset, and Stanley; Right Honourables G. Dawson Damer, J. Nicholl, Sir Edward Knatchbull, W. E. Gladstone, H. Goulburn, Sir Henry Hardinge, H. Lowry Corry, and Sir James Graham; Hon. Sydney Herbert, Hon. Captain A. Duncombe, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, Sir Frederick Trench, Sir Thomas Fremantle, Sir George Clerk, Colonel Peel, Captain Boldre, Mr. Greene, Captain Meynell, Mr. G. W. Hope, Mr. A. Pringle, and Mr. Bingham Baring.

Admiral Sir George Cockburn is going on favourably, but it is not expected that he will be able to resume his parliamentary duties during the approaching session; and, in the opinion of his medical attendants, some weeks will elapse before he can transact his official duties at the Admiralty.

Admiral Sir Robert and Lady Otway have been plunged into deep affliction by the supposed loss of their son, Commander Charles Cooke Otway, of her Majesty's ship Victor, 16, in the Gulf of Florida.

INDISPOSITION OF THE EARL OF ABERDEEN.—The noble Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was unable to attend the Privy Council at Windsor Castle on Wednesday in consequence of indisposition, and was on that account obliged to excuse himself from dining with his political friends at the Duke of Wellington's. Dr. Holland is in attendance on his lordship. Sir Robert Peel, on his return to town from Windsor Castle, called at Argyll House, and had a lengthened interview with the noble earl.

The Marquis of Northampton, as President of the Royal Society, gives his *soirées* to the learned fellows of that distinguished society on Saturday, the 25th inst., March 11th and 25th, and April 8th, at his Mansion in Piccadilly.

COUNTRY NEWS.

LEEDS.—SHOCKING CASE OF MURDER AND MUTILATION.—It is with the greatest possible reluctance we feel ourselves compelled to give insertion to the following disgusting and horrifying details of a deed of blood, which has just occurred at Leeds, and which fully equals in atrocity and hellish instigation the abominable cruelties perpetrated by Good and Greenacre.

On Sunday last, the headless and limbless body of a human being was found floating in the Knotstrop Cut of the Aire and Calder Navigation, within about 50 yards of the lock on that cut, known by the name of the Red Dick Lock, and within a few yards of the Thorpe-hall or Waterloo Coal Staiths, belonging to the Thorpe-hall Colliery, the property of Messrs. Fenton and Leather. The body had been seen on the previous day by some men who were loading a vessel with coals at the staith, but they took it to be the remains of a dog or a pig, or some other animal, and let it remain without touching it or at all examining it. On Sunday it was floating with its back upwards, and then at once it was seen to be the trunk of a human being. It was got to shore by a policeman and two young men, who were walking on the bank of the cut or canal, who first really saw that it was a large portion of the body of either a man or a woman. On being got to shore it was found that the body was dreadfully scorched and burnt; that the head with the neck had been cut off, the right arm cut and separated by the shoulder joint, and that the left arm had been partially cut and sawed off. Both the legs and thighs had also been either cut, burnt, or sawed off, and the body itself cut across just below the ribs, taking away the lower portion of the abdomen. Indeed, the whole of the body, except from the shoulders to the lower ribs, had been removed. The front part of the body, especially the upper portion, was burnt in a most shocking manner, both the breasts being completely burnt off, so that there was only a piece of shrivelled matter on each side where the breasts had been. The front of the abdomen had also been burnt away, and the heart, the lungs, and the other viscera had suffered from the action of fire. From the appearance of the back of the body medical men have judged it to be that of a female. How, or by what means the individual has come to her death, what her name is, where she comes from, or how long the body had been in the water before it was got out, are as yet mysteries. There is little doubt but a most horrid and barbarous murder has been committed, but there is no report of any female having been missing from Leeds or the neighbourhood, and no opinion can be formed on the subject, but that a woman, apparently between 20 and 30 years of age, has been deprived of life, and the perpetrator or perpetrators of the atrocious deed have severed the limbs and the head off, and destroyed them, probably by fire, and tried also to burn the body, but not having succeeded in the latter part of the infernal crime the body has been thrown into the place where it was discovered. Search has been made in the canal for the other portions of the body, but nothing had been discovered. The place where the body was found is about a mile from the centre of Leeds, and is within the borough.

MANCHESTER.—EXTENSIVE FIRE.—On Saturday night last an alarming fire broke out in the extensive pile of buildings situated in Norfolk-street, close to the Post-office. The building was erected in 1836, a portion of which is in Brown-street, Norfolk-street, and Essex-street. It is in the form of the letter L, was six stories high, and occupied as warehouses by Messrs. Clayton and Gladstone, commission-agents; Messrs. Ackard and Co., general merchants; John Hayhurst, merchant; Andrew Hall, manufacturer and spinner; and Love and Law, yarn dealers. The warehouses, at the time of the conflagration, were crowded to the ceiling with calicos, yarns, counterpanes, damasks, &c. The fire originated on the second floor, in Messrs. Clayton and Gladstone's warehouse. In a short time after the alarm was given, Mr. Rose was in attendance with five engines and a strong body of firemen. The most of the Manchester borough police were also soon on the spot, and rendered efficient service in removing books and property, as well as keeping off the crowds which were attracted towards the scene of destruction. By eleven o'clock the flames had so far progressed as to leave little hopes of preserving the building, which, about one o'clock, was one mass of lurid blaze. The flames having reached the upper part of the building, where the goods were of a more inflammatory nature, raged with great fury, and about half-past eleven the whole roof was on fire, and shortly fell in with a tremendous crash, carrying with it two of the upper floors. The damage done cannot be estimated at less than £50,000, including the building. The whole of the losses, we understand,

EPITOME OF NEWS.

An Irish landlord has just issued an edict to his tenantry against improvident marriages, in which he threatens with expulsion all persons on his estate who allow their children to marry before a certain age.—The wonderful focus of artificial light by which such extraordinary effects are now every night produced at the Royal Adelaide Gallery was first discovered by the celebrated Tom Steele, who delights in styling himself O'Connell's *head pacificator*. (Is it owing to this gentleman's influence that nothing is heard now-a-days of the O'Connell *tail*?)—The *Morning Chronicle*, in reference to the intriguing policy of Russia in the East, declares that that power is merely repeating her old game of fomenting troubles and seditions, in order that sooner or later she may be called in to settle them.—An important decision has just been given by the Master of the Rolls in the case of the Attorney-General and the Grocers' Company of London, by which it is decreed that out of a certain amount of property left in the hands of trustees, to endow a school and hospital, no payments, beyond those originally fixed by the founder's will are to be made, although the property has since increased immensely in value. In reference to this decision the correspondent of a morning paper shrewdly observes, "that however excellent turtle, and venison, and even water fowls may be in their way, education, based on religious instruction, is infinitely more to be desired, to say nothing of the maintenance of the aged and indigent in their decrepitude."—By the accidental omission of a 0 in our statement of the amount of expense for labour saved to the company by the explosion on the South Eastern Railway at Dover, the sum was stated at £1000 instead of £10,000.—The present condition of the Southampton Docks appears to be the source of much dissatisfaction to the shareholders, who held a public meeting at the George and Vulture Tavern, Cornhill, on Monday last, for the purpose of protesting against the proceedings of the directors. No definite course, however, was adopted on the occasion.—The operation of the income-tax continues to be attended by the most disagreeable results throughout the metropolitan districts. In the East End particularly the commissioners find they have not got a sinecure, as the appellants are, for the most part, Jews, who are not disposed to submit to the surcharge with anything like amiability of temper.—By a recent decision of the Court of Session the claims of the Rev. Alexander Frazer to the Lovat estates and title have been set aside, and those of Lord Lovat irrevocably confirmed.—At the meridian of Monday the glass stood at 75 in the sun, and 56 in the shade.—Greenwich Park bears all the appearance of the close approach of spring. The grass is as green and the trees are nearly as forward in budding as they were in the middle of last April. The flowers, &c., in the gardens round Lee and Lewisham have an appearance of forwardness truly surprising.—The latest humbug invented—and the one which appears now most in vogue—is the forgery of ancient coins, which has been carried to a most incredible extent throughout the country. Some of these ingenious forgeries, it is stated, have on more than one occasion furnished lengthened disquisitions for that peculiar section of the British Association to which the examination of these matters is assigned. *A-propos*, we observe that the Earl of Rosse has intimated that the next general meeting of this association will be held at Cork, in the month of August, when it is expected that the geological section will finally determine the moisture and dryness, volatility, fixity, corrosiveness, and corruptibility of the Blarney stone. Mr. O'Connell and the Rev. Mortimer O'Sullivan are said to have contributed two learned papers on the subject.—William Connell, who stands charged with attempting to kill by shooting at Mrs. Magnus, the barwoman of the Auction Mart Tavern, has been again remanded, in order to enable the prosecutrix to give evidence.—The *Shrewsbury News* contains a horrible account of the death of a poor working man named Pugh, at Welshpool, whose clothes took fire whilst in state of inebriety, by which he was burned to death in a shocking and revolting manner.—An investigation is at present on foot relative to the purloining of a valuable portion of Earl Fitzwilliam's jewels (some of which were heirlooms in the family) from Milton House. Suspicion attaches, it appears, to some of his lordship's domestics, and one of them, a female, is at present in custody in the Peterborough House of Correction.—The Government *Police Gazette* of Monday night contains no fewer than ten notices of burglary and housebreaking occurring in the provinces within the past week. In each case the property taken was valuable.—It is positively announced that Mr. David Pollock has received the appointment of Commissioner of the Court for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors, vacant by the decease of the lamented Mr. Bowen.—In the Court of Chancery, on Tuesday last, Mr. Cobbett, son of the late eminent writer and political economist, applied to discharge an order pronounced by the Lord Chancellor in December last, refusing, with costs, an application for his discharge, he being a prisoner in the Queen's Bench for contempt for not putting in his answer, and also in consequence of not paying certain costs he had been ordered to discharge. The Lord Chancellor again remanded the prisoner, who left the court in the custody of the tipstaff.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Tuesday, an application was made for a criminal information against a Liverpool attorney, named Laine, for writing a threatening letter tending to lead to a breach of the peace; but the court indignantly refused it, declining at once to interfere in what Lord Denman emphatically characterized as low and paltry squabbles.—On Tuesday last a workman named Prentice underwent a private examination before the magistrates, on a charge of being found in the stores of Windsor Castle with a felonious intent. It appeared that the prisoner entered the premises in question (in which he had no business) by means of a skeleton key. He was fully committed for trial.—At the meeting of commissioners of sewers, on Tuesday, Sir Peter Laurie gave notice of a motion, "That in the opinion of this court the wood pavement in the Poultry is dangerous and inconvenient to the public, and ought to be taken up and replaced by granite pavement."—We are glad to intimate that trade has somewhat improved in Paisley during the last week. A considerable number of webs have been given out, but there are still many thousands dependent on the relief committee.—Mr. Ainsworth, the member for Bolton, has been called on by his constituents to resign his seat in consequence of his refusing to explain his reasons for changing his opinion on the corn-law question.—An Irish barrister of considerable notoriety was forcibly ejected from the Lady-Lieutenant's drawing-room, at Dublin Castle, by the inspector of police last week, on the ground, it is stated, that he had failed to obtain a verdict against a distinguished relation in an action for defamation.—The Australian Agricultural Company, it appears by their annual report, have been going on prosperously during the past year, but have found it necessary, notwithstanding, to suspend the dividend.—The non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Artillery have got liberty to wear the Cross of the Spanish Order of Isabella the Second, bestowed on them by the Queen of Spain, for their services on the north coast in the year 1837.—The Limerick Chronicle says, the several poor-law unions in Ireland are indebted to the National Bank £70,000.—On Tuesday morning last the house of Mr. Marshall, silversmith, of Man-street, Hackney, was broken open and robbed of a large quantity of valuable jewellery.—Such is the congenial state of the weather and fitness of the land, that on Tuesday, the 24th inst., Mr. George Atkinson, a tenant of the Marquis of Londonderry, at Seaham Hall Farm, commenced sowing beans in the open fields; this is a rare occurrence, and it has not happened since the year 1819.—We perceive by the report of the half-yearly meeting, which was an exceedingly noisy and turbulent one, of the London and Greenwich Railway Company, that the differences between that and the other companies (Brighton, South-Eastern, and Croydon), have not been as yet adjusted. If only half the attention were bestowed to the improved accommodation of the public, as is apparently devoted to the animosities of rivalry, it would be much better for all parties.—The crime of sheep-stealing, it appears, is greater on the increase in the metropolitan counties.—The "pairing off" system, which is one of the most objectionable in many points of view that could well be tolerated, has already commenced for the season, as appears by the following announcements:—Mr. O'Brien, M.P. for Clare, has paired off with Mr. Kirk, M.P. for Carrickfergus, until the 15th of March; and Mr. Philip Howard, M.P. for Carlisle, has paired off with Mr. Hope Johnstone, M.P. for Dumfriesshire, until the 6th of March.—It is rumoured that the Right Hon. G. R. Dawson, Sir R. Peel's brother-in-law, is about to be appointed Chairman of the Board of Customs.—A dreadful accident occurred to a distinguished member of the Puckeridge hunt (Mr. Hobson) whilst out with the hounds on Saturday last, by which he sustained such extensive injury of the spine, that no hopes are entertained of his recovery.—William Mephan, who was convicted at the West Kent Quarter Sessions in 1841, and sentenced to 15 years' transportation for an aggravated assault, has been recommended to her Majesty by the Secretary of State for a free pardon; since Mephan's departure, a man named Wells has confessed himself the real delinquent.—We regret to hear that Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Troubridge is labouring under severe indisposition at Paris, arising from an attack of paralysis.—The Bishop of Chichester is nearly recovered from the indisposition which has confined his lordship to the palace for some weeks.

Lord Seaton is said to have been appointed Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands in succession to Sir Howard Douglas.

THE QUORN HOUNDS.—These hounds continue to afford brilliant sport, and to attract all the *elite* of the *beau monde* to Leicestershire. Never could it boast a greater assemblage of *distingués chasseurs* than at the present moment; *voilà, par exemple*, the meet at Kilby Wharf on Monday, the 23rd ult., included Lords Cardigan, Wilton, Gardner, Maidstone, Beresford, Macdonald, Curzon, the Marquis of Hastings, Count Batthyany, Sir W. W. Wynn, Sir W. M. Stanley, Sir W. W. Dixie, and an immense "field" besides of celebrated *hounds*. There never is a disappointment with these hounds—they always do something good and promise something better.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign Office, to-day, at two o'clock: all the Ministers were present. Previous to holding the Council several members of the Government had interviews with Sir R. Peel, at the right honourable baronet's residence in Whitehall Gardens.

POSTSCRIPT.

Saturday Evening.

THE OVERLAND MAIL FROM INDIA.—The Paris papers have just arrived, announcing that a telegraphic dispatch has reached Paris, stating the arrival at Marseilles of the Overland Indian Mail. The weather, however, was so bad that no details could be given.—[We shall next week give full particulars, with several illustrations.]

WINDSOR, Thursday.—Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert did not take their accustomed walking exercise in consequence of the wet state of the weather. His Royal Highness Prince Albert took equestrian exercise in the Riding School, attended by Colonel Wyld.

FRIDAY.—Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert took their usual morning exercise.—His Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by Mr. G. E. Anson, walked out in the royal pleasure-grounds. The Prince, in returning to the castle, was overtaken by a severe hail storm.—The Lord Steward arrived at the castle between twelve and one o'clock, with the Lord's address, and returned to town at three, with her Majesty's answer.—The royal dinner party included the following personages (covers were laid for thirteen):—The Countess of Charlemont, the Hon. Misses Stanley and Hamilton, the Earl of Hardwicke, Colonel Wyld, Colonel Arbuthnot, Sir Frederick Stoven, Lord and Lady Haddo (of St. Leonard's Dale), the Hon. C. A. Murray, and Dr. Praetorius.—The band of the Grenadier Guards was in attendance.

THE COURT.—It is now understood that the contemplated removal of the Court to Buckingham Palace, from Windsor Castle, will not take place before the 15th instant. It is rumoured in court circles that his Royal Highness Prince Albert will hold the levees of her Majesty during the approaching season, and that the Queen will herself preside at the drawing-rooms, which will be fewer in number than usual, and that a series of summer *fêtes* will take place at Windsor Castle, on a scale of great splendour.

THE LORDS' ADDRESS.—The Lords' Address to her Majesty, in answer to her most gracious speech on the opening of Parliament, will be laid before her Majesty by the Lord Great Chamberlain, and an answer returned by the Queen on Monday next, which will be communicated to the House of Lords by the Earl of Liverpool, Lord Steward of the Household. When the Sovereign is not in town, and does not open the sessions in person, it is not usual for either house to go in procession to present the Address in answer to the Royal Speech.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex has intimated his intention of standing sponsor in person to the infant son and heir of Lord John Russell.

FIRE AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.—Thursday afternoon the soot of a flue connected with the kitchen chimney of the Foreign Office became ignited, the intense heat from which had caused an ironhot cupboard, or closet, in which refreshments for the clerks are warmed, to be nearly red-hot, by which means the girders of the ground-floor had been set on fire. The firemen, assisted by a body of workmen under the direction of the government clerk of the works, immediately set to work in ripping up the flooring, by which means they succeeded, in about two hours, in allaying all cause for any further alarm, although, as a precautionary measure, some of the firemen were directed to remain at the Foreign Office during the night. Earl Lincoln, and several other noblemen and gentlemen connected with the government offices, were present shortly after the fire was discovered, and remained until it was extinguished.

MORE SHIPWRECKS AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The subjoined intelligence relating to the total loss of several vessels, attended, we regret to add, with lamentable sacrifice of human life, was in the course of Wednesday and Thursday posted upon the books at Lloyd's:—"Wreck of the Douro of Liverpool.—All hands lost.—This vessel, registered as 400 tons burthen, with a valuable cargo on board, was totally lost, with all her crew, on the night of Thursday last, the 26th of January, upon the rocks at the westward of the Scilly-islands. At an early hour on the following morning the ill-fated vessel was discovered by some fishermen, with her mast gone, and thrown on the rocks upon her broadside, with the sea making a complete breach over her. They immediately bore down to the spot, but there was no one on board to give them the slightest information,—every soul belonging to her had perished. On the same day four bodies were washed up on the beach, which have been proved to be belonging to the vessel. One of them is supposed to be her unfortunate commander, Mr. Gowland, and the others his seamen. They have since been decently interred at St. Mary's. The rock upon which the vessel struck is called the Creaks than, and is situated about a mile from the beach. The vessel is reported to be fully insured."

DESTRUCTION OF A VESSEL BY FIRE.—Accounts were received on Thursday of the total loss by fire of the French brig the *Tris Angelique*, Captain Henry, loaded with a general cargo, while on her passage from Rouen to Marseilles. Her destruction occurred on the night of the 6th of November last, and arose through a barrel of vitriol bursting in the forecastle, which flowed into the hold and set fire to the cargo. For hours the flames raged with fearful violence, baffling all attempts made by the crew to subdue it, who at length were compelled to take to the boats and leave the vessel. During the night the glare from the flames attracted the attention of those in charge of the English ship the *Countess of London*, who instantly altered the course of the ship, and bore down to her assistance. Fortunately, they soon came up with the crew of the unfortunate vessel, whom they took on board and kindly treated. The brig burnt furiously until nine o'clock the next morning, the 7th, when she disappeared in 40 fathoms water. It is unknown whether the owners are insured to the amount of her loss.

COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL AND SINKING OF A VESSEL.—Early on Monday morning last a collision took place in the Channel, near the Needles, which very nearly was attended with dreadful loss of life. The Papenburgh galliot, Napoleon, while under full sail, the wind blowing a strong gale from the westward, in making through the Channel, was run into by a vessel unknown, coming from the opposite direction. Such was the violent force with which the vessel struck that the master and crew had scarcely time to get into their boats before the ship went down in deep water. They were afterwards picked up by the American barque, Henry Shelton, and landed safely at Dartmouth.

At Yarmouth, on Friday week, a brig called the *Ann*, in making the river, struck on the Barnard Sands and sunk. All hands, we regret to say, perished with her.

THE STORM.—Yesterday, shortly after four o'clock, the wind, which had varied from the south to the south-west during the morning, veered round suddenly to the north, and blew a hurricane for a few minutes, accompanied by a storm of sleet and hail, which covered all the thoroughfares to a considerable depth. At the new Royal Exchange an accident occurred through the violence of the wind. In the erection of this building, certain trucks, technically termed "travelling machines," are used for the conveyance of blocks of stone from one part of

the building to another. These trucks run on a tramway formed on the scaffold frame, and are worked by a windlass, which requires three men to turn it. It appears that one of the largest of these machines, having a span of 25 feet, and weighing nearly three tons, was standing at the north-west end of the building, when a gust of wind caught it, and drove it onwards to the Cornhill side, from which it was precipitated into the street below, crushing the scaffold in its descent. The thoroughfare in Cornhill was stopped for some time, an examination into the security of the scaffold was made by the foreman of the works. Several of the masons were employed within a few paces of where the ponderous machine fell, and their escape was perfectly extraordinary.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT, FRIDAY.—(Before Mr. Justice Williams and Mr. Justice Maule.)—William Henry Richards, aged 23, was indicted for feloniously killing and slaying Henry Richards. Mr. Ballantine defended the prisoner. From the evidence, the particulars of which have been recently published in the police reports, it appeared that the prisoner was the son of the deceased, who kept a chandler's shop at Kensall-green. The prisoner, who was a boot-cleaner, called at his father's shop in the evening of the 2nd of January last. Some dispute arose, a scuffle ensued between them, and the deceased tried to stab the prisoner with a knife which he snatched up. The prisoner wrenched the knife from him, and saying, "You tried to do it to me, and I'll do it to you," stabbed him in the left side of the chest, near the shoulder. The deceased lingered under the effects of the wound until the 20th January, and on that day he died. He was a man of very intemperate habits. It appeared that he had ill-treated his wife, and attempted, on a former occasion, to stab another of his sons.—Mr. Ballantine, having addressed the jury for the defence, called several witnesses to the prisoner's character.—Mr. Justice Williams summed up the evidence, and the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty," with a strong recommendation to mercy under the peculiar circumstances; at the same time they expressed their regret that the sufferer was a parent.—Mr. Justice Williams addressed the prisoner and said, that in consequence of the recommendation of the jury, and the great provocation which he appeared to have received, the court would pass upon him a lenient sentence, which was, that he should be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for one month.

John Horan, aged 24, a private soldier in the 8th Royal Irish Hussars, was indicted for feloniously and maliciously cutting and wounding Edward Fitch, with intent to do him some grievous bodily harm. Mr. Payne conducted the prosecution.—The prisoner was defended by Mr. Ballantine.—The particulars of the case have been lately published.—The jury returned a verdict of "Guilty of wounding with intent to do some grievous bodily harm."—Mr. Justice Maule then sentenced the prisoner to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for one year.

The Paris papers of Thursday have reached us. The debate on the right of search paragraph still continued, and the firmness displayed by M. Guizot, in the speech delivered by him on the occasion, has greatly strengthened the general confidence in the issue.

The Rev. Mr. Bailey, the particulars of whose case have already fully appeared in this paper, was on Wednesday last put on his trial at the Central Criminal Court, for feloniously forging on the 9th of September, 1841, at the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster, a certain promissory note for the payment of £2875, with intent to defraud Robert Smith, since deceased; in a second count the offence was alleged to have been committed with intent to defraud Mr. James Smith; other counts charged the prisoner with uttering and putting off the note in question. The trial lasted until 10 o'clock at night, when the jury returned a verdict of *guilty* of uttering only. The learned judge sentenced the prisoner to be transported beyond the seas for the term of his natural life.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

By recent American papers, it appears that a correspondence has taken place between certain agents of the Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands and the Secretary of State, which has been communicated to Congress by the President. The message states that the condition of these islands has excited a good deal of interest, from the progress of the inhabitants in civilization, and their becoming more and more competent to maintain regular and orderly civil government. "They lie in the Pacific, much nearer to this continent (America) than the other, and have become an important place for the refitment and provisioning of American and European vessels." Owing to their locality, and to the course of winds which prevail in this quarter of the world, the Sandwich Islands are the stopping-place for almost all the vessels passing from continent to continent, across the Pacific Ocean. They are especially resorted to by a great number of American whaling and other vessels; and the property owned by citizens of the United States, to be found in these islands, is very considerable. The message then glances at the feeble state of the government of the Sandwich Islands, its just and pacific disposition, and its anxiety in the march of civilization and improvement. Hence the American government proposes to respect this rising community, and strictly and conscientiously to regard their rights; lest any other power should take possession of the islands, colonize them, and subvert the native government. Meanwhile, the message declares that the United States seek no peculiar advantages or control over the Hawaiian government, but fully recognizes its independence, and proposes to appoint a Consul resident in the islands. On this account, we present our readers with the annexed *résumé* of this interesting cluster, the civilization of which has been already so materially advanced by British influence.

These islands, it is well known, were discovered some 65 years since by Captain Cook, who named them in honour of Earl Sandwich, then First Lord of the Admiralty. About eight years afterwards they were visited by La Perouse, and merchantmen have followed from time to time the same track, so that a frequent and rather confidential intercourse has been established between foreigners and the islanders, from the discovery of their sea-girt homes by Europeans.

The Sandwich Islands lie between the parallels of 18 deg. 24 min. and 22 deg. 15 min north, extending in longitude from 154 deg. 56 min. to 160 deg. 23 min. west. Their number is usually limited to ten; and the names by which, according to the latest orthography, they are known among the natives, are Hawaii (Owhyhee), Oahu, Mani, Tana, Morokai, Ranai, Morokin, Nihan, Taura, and Tahuraw. They are distant about 2800 miles from Mexico on the east, 5000 from the shores of China on the west, 2700 from the Society Islands on the south, and 1500 from the Marquesas.

Owhyhee, the most southern and largest of the whole, is about 97 miles long, 78 broad, and was supposed, when first discovered by the English, to contain 85,000 inhabitants. Woahoo is 46 miles in length, and 23 in breadth, with a population of about 20,000. Towee, situated 75 miles north-west from the latter, is somewhat smaller in dimensions, and is supposed to possess only 10,000 residents. Mowee is 48 miles long and 30 broad, with 20,000 inhabitants. The others are of less importance.

Cook found the four principal islands of the Sandwich group governed by as many independent kings, who frequently made war on each other; but about the year 1782 Tamehameha, a chief of inferior rank, rose against his lawful prince, and, by his superior talents, acquired possession of the whole cluster; the king was slain, and the victor married his captive daughter. Before 1792, when Vancouver touched here, several of the chiefs, availing themselves of the opportunity offered to them by English and American ships, had made voyages to distant parts, and many had resided for a short time in the United States. Thus the people had become sensible of the advantages of a mercantile navy and of fire-arms, and Europeans

had furnished them with muskets and ammunition, and taught them the use of artillery and fortification. Many of the chiefs had already built houses of stone, adopted, in part, the European dress, and engraven English terms on their scanty vocabulary. Vancouver left them a breed of cattle and sheep, so that the country is well stocked with both, and can supply ships. Fruits and esculent plants had also been introduced. Tamehameha, however, thought it prudent to place himself under the protection of the English, as he already suspected the Americans and Russians to be desirous of forming settlements on the islands, although he opened intercourse with every class. Sandal-wood, of great value, was found in the mountains; in return for which the natives were at first satisfied with pieces of iron, nails, and coarse cloth; but they soon required axes, guns, muskets, powder and shot; Chinese, American, and British manufactures; and schooners and brigs, measuring several hundred tons. Meanwhile, George the Third assured Tamehameha of his friendship, and presented him with a ship built at Port Jackson. In the true spirit of a reformer, Tamehameha soon alienated his mind from all reliance on the ancient gods of Owhyhee, and showed an earnest desire to know the principles of faith professed by more civilized nations; but it was not until the reign of his successor, Tamehameha II., that, through some American missionaries, the idols of Owhyhee were destroyed, or, like the specimen now to be seen in court-yard of the British Museum, regarded as curiosities.

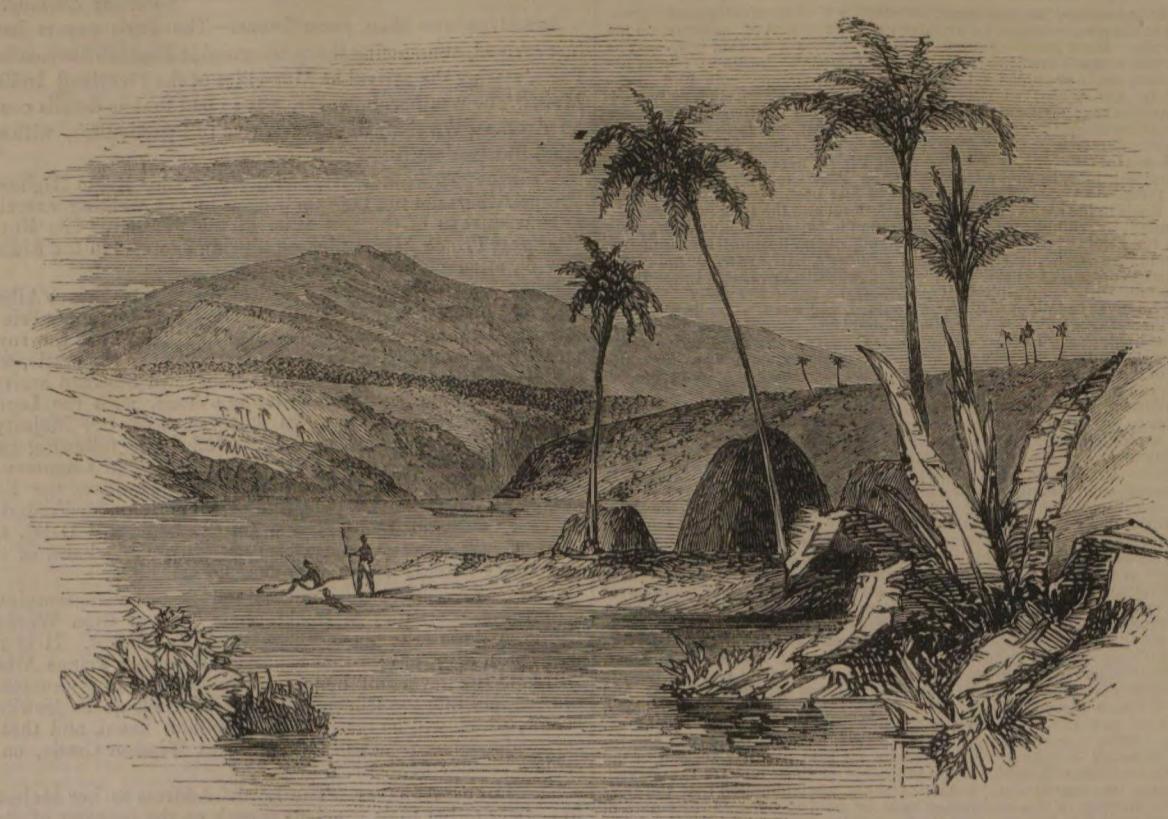


NATIVE OF THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

The visit of Tamehameha and his consort to England in 1824 was made with the idea that a personal interview with the English monarch might still more effectually secure his protection, and even aid him in his plan for advancing his people in learning and true religion. But the poor island King and Queen died of measles without conferring with George IV.; but their official attendants were graciously received at Windsor, and our Sovereign promised protection to their government against all foreign designs. It will be remembered that the remains of Tamehameha and his Queen were conveyed to the Sandwich Islands in the Blonde frigate, and Lord Byron, the commander, observes, "perhaps the perfect faith reposed in the English by the people in the islands is the strongest proof that ever could be given by a whole nation of simple-mindedness and freedom from guile. There was not a moment's irritation—not a moment's suspicion that unfair means had been used to shorten their days; and we were received as brothers who would sympathise with their grief, and as friends who would be glad to heal their wounds." It may here be mentioned that so far from Tamehameha and his Queen being addicted to gluttony and drunkenness, as was reported during their stay in London, they ate little or no butchers' meat, but lived chiefly on poultry, fruit, and vegetables, and their favourite beverage was some cider presented to them by Mr. Canning. The charge for their table at Osborne's Hotel averaged but 17s. a head per day.

When Captain Beechey visited Woahoo he found a town of wooden houses, laid out in streets and squares, with such economical announcements as, "An ordinary at 1 o'clock," "Billiards," "The Britannia," "The Jolly Tar," &c. There were two hotels, with billiard-rooms; wines and other luxuries were to be had; the chiefs' houses were furnished with tables and chairs; and one of the ministers presented the King with a service of plate, and had in use another service of beautifully cut glass, of London manufacture. The King was attended by a guard and sentinels at his palace; the ramparts mounted forty guns, and troops paraded the ramparts, and 5000 stand of arms were in the island. The harbour was crowded with foreign vessels, and the Government had received consuls from Great Britain and America; and where only the naked savage was lately seen, the clothing of a cultivated people was now worn.

An occurrence during Lord Byron's visit now becomes interesting, in connection with the projected American protection already noticed. When Lord Byron was asked if King George had any objection to the American missionaries in the islands, he replied certainly not, so long as they did not meddle with the laws or commerce of the country; and one of the leading missionaries disclaimed all intention of interfering in political or commercial concerns. The American preachers have, however, been suspected of some jealousy in regard to the Russians and English. Kotzebue, Byron, and Beechey doubtless considered them more active than enough in matters not strictly comprehended in their spiritual duties. The progress in religion was not so great as could be wished, although in Honololu almost every person might be seen hastening to school with a slate in his hand, hoping soon to be able to transcribe some part of the Scriptures; but the education being made compulsory soon defeated its object.



BYRON'S BAY, SANDWICH ISLANDS.

In 1827, however, Tamehameha III. and his chief passed penal statutes against murder, adultery, theft, gambling, drunkenness, and profanation of the Sabbath. In 1829 domestic comforts had been so multiplied, that in the royal residence there were carpets, crimson draperies, handsome pier tables, and large mirrors, glass chandeliers, lustres, and bronze candelabra. Tamehameha had grown up a fine stout lad, as graceful, well bred, and gentlemanly as any lad of his age in the most polished circles of Europe. Nor was this improvement confined to the court, for Mr. Stewart, the missionary, in 1830, describes the sitting-room of a lady convert to the gospel comparatively as well furnished as the palace, the principal article being an elegant writing-table, with papers and books in the language of the country. The King is described as wearing his rich Windsor uniform, and his sister a superb dress, on the opening of a large meeting house, built by order of Government; and, up to the present day, the progress of our missionaries has been a course of fair encouragement.

The Sandwich Islanders are tall and robust. Compared with the Otaheitans, they are of a dark brown complexion, and the females do not display the same softened graces. But they are distinguished above all other inhabitants of the South Sea by their industry and skill. They have improved almost every spot susceptible of cultivation: in manufactures, canoe-building, and fishery the alike excel. Their general conduct is open, honourable, and friendly; yet they are easily kindled to fierce resentment, especially by any wrong against their chiefs, such as led to the death of Cook.

The natural aspect of these islands is grand and awful. The mountains of Monna Roa and Monna Koa rise comparatively to an alpine height, and are perpetually capped with snow: both are volcanic, and Reli, on the flank of Monna Roa, is the most terrific and varied volcano in the world: it is 1000 feet deep and six miles in circuit, and in 1840 it threw up lava 50 or 60 feet high: the light was seen 100 miles off, and "Vesuvius is a fool to it!"

Reverting to the local position of the Sandwich Isles, it, doubtless, renders them highly important to all the great trading communities of either hemisphere. "On the north are the Russian settlements, along the coast of their Asiatic territories; towards the north-west are the dominions of Japan; due west are the Marian Islands, the Philippines, and Canton; and on the east are California and Mexico. The establishment of the independent States of South America has of late greatly increased their value as an emporium for the commerce of that remote section of the globe, as they lie in the very track pursued by vessels passing thence to China or Calcutta. They are visited, too, by those who trade in furs in the countries bordering on Nootka Sound, as well as by the whalers, who, having found the sperm whale on the coast of Japan, annually frequent the Northern Pacific."—(Polynesia, by Dr. Russell, just published.) By thus glancing at the position of the Sandwich group, the reader may "guess" the motive of the American Government in its protective anxiety for the independence of the islanders.



THE MARQUESAS ISLANDERS.

These new subjects, or allies, of Louis Philippe are graphically sketched by a correspondent of the Times, who says, as we before quoted, "Having lately smoked a cigar with his naked Majesty King Yutze, who is a fat, good natured savage, lolling all day under a shady tree in Resolution Bay, and having visited the entire group of islands, I can assure you and your French readers, that as to soil, harbours, situation, and appropriateness for either occupation or imi-

On, the Marquesas are the most worthless cluster of islands in the Pacific Ocean; and, so far from whalers and other ships being able to procure supplies of hogs, fruit, and vegetables, the scanty inhabitants can hardly maintain themselves.

Contrary, however, to the expectations of this recent visitor to the Marquesas, the French King intends "to throw away money on the settlement;" as a recent number of the *Journal des Débats* publishes the following extract from a despatch addressed by the Minister of Marine to the Maritime Prefect of Brest:—"The intention of his Majesty is, that the garrison of the Marquesas Islands should be provisionally composed of a battalion of Marine Artillery, a company of Artillery, and detachment of the sixth company of Sappers and Miners. There are already stationed in those islands two companies of the 3rd Regiment, a detachment of 21 Artillerymen, and a detachment of the first company of Sappers and Miners. I recommend you particularly to take precautions that all the men to be embarked on this expedition should be carefully examined by the chief surgeons of their regiments, in order that it be ascertained that they enjoy good health, that they have been vaccinated, and that their mouths be sound. You will replace those who are unfit for service. Each man, on being embarked, is to be provided with a hammock, mattress, bolster, and woollen blanket. You will likewise supply the troops with a sufficient number of cooking apparatus, as well as implements of husbandry. You will take care that a supply of clothing sufficient for 18 months be embarked with the expedition. It will be likewise necessary to embark 100 iron bedsteads, mattresses, pillows, sheets, and blankets, for the use of the sick in the colony." As the Marquesas are to be the scene of the last French colonization farce, we give from the best authority sketches of the natives—fine muscular fellows, but miserably ignorant. The group displays their gods, with two figures holding out, as peace offering to their Gallican friends, the staple produce of their country—pigs and rats. Long may Louis Philippe live to reign over his new subjects!

THE CHURCHES OF THE METROPOLIS.—No. XXVI.



NEW CHURCH, BROADWAY, WESTMINSTER.

Amid the dirt and bustle of the Broadway, Westminster, surrounded by poverty in all its shapes, and enclosed by sheds, hovels, and gin palaces, another new church is uprearing its head. It occupies the site of an old chapel, founded in the time of Charles I., and will as much surpass its predecessor in size and architectural display as the neighbourhood now exceeds its olden amount of houses and population.

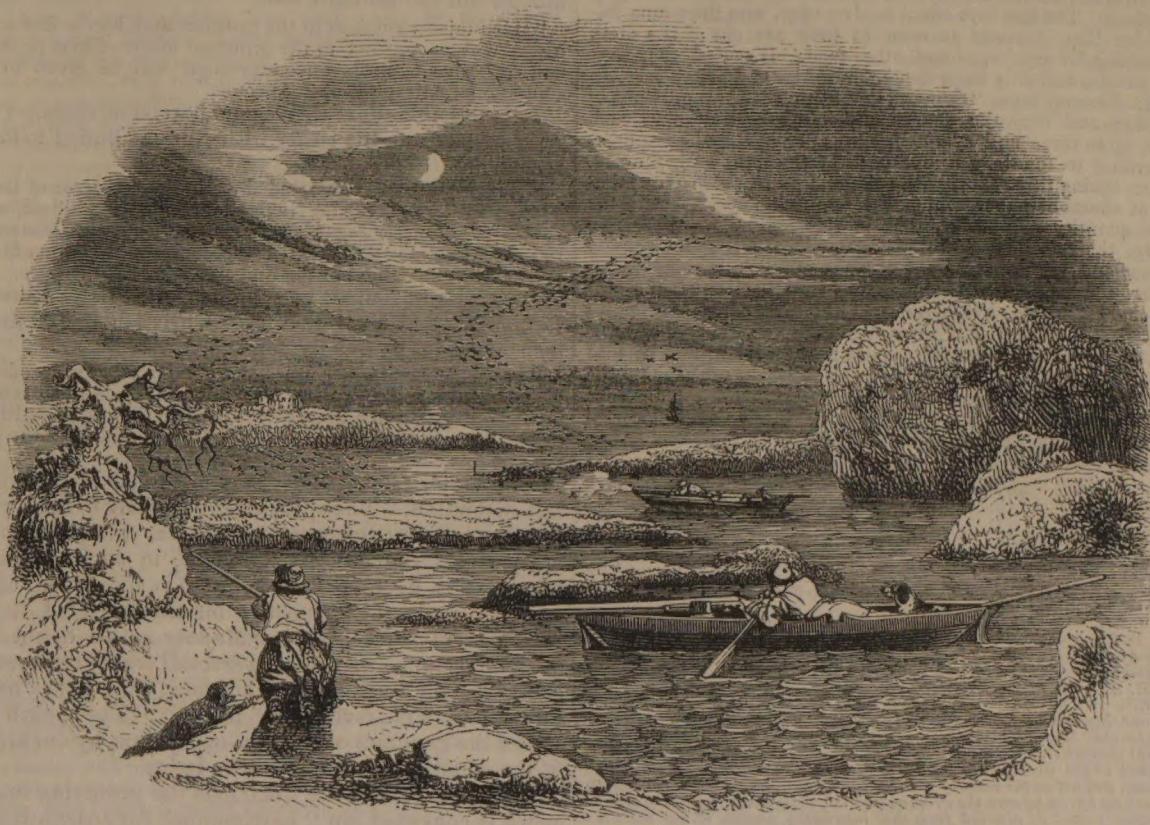
The style selected is Gothic, of the latter period of the early English. The tower is placed at the north side of the west end of the church—the object in thus locating it being to avoid that stiff formality so disagreeably prominent in many of our modern churches, and to prevent the comparison which, had it been placed, as usual, exactly at the west end, would have forced itself upon the mind, of disproportion between the size and height of the tower and spire and the body of the church. The exterior of the building is stone, and the arches and mouldings of the interior will be of the same material. The fourteen columns which support the roof and divide the nave from the side aisles are of iron. The dimensions of the interior are 94 feet long by 54 feet in width, without including the small chancel at the east end, which is separated from the body of the building by a moulded arch and clustered columns, and is approached by an ascent of several steps. There will be no pews, and the galleries will be appropriated exclusively to the use of the children of the national and parish schools. The first stone was laid the 30th May, 1842; the amount of contract, with incidental expenses and architect's commission, is £6116 13s 4d. the architect's estimate being £7893 4s 11d. The total church accommodation is for 1500 persons, of which number 1200 are to be free seats. The building was arranged to be completed in December of the present year; but, although the roof is just being completed over the body of the church, the tower is little more than commenced. The united height of the tower and spire will be two hundred feet—which is fifty feet higher than the spire of St. George's, Woburn square; the latter being at present the loftiest of the modern Gothic buildings in London. The towers of Westminster Abbey are but 225 feet high, and the new church will therefore, vie with the old abbey as a conspicuous object in the view of this part of the city. But height is not the only recommendation of the design; for, as our view will show, the outline is bold yet graceful, and its composition does credit to Mr. Poynter, the architect, from whose designs it is now in course of erection.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

FIRE IN THE METROPOLIS.—On Tuesday morning, about six o'clock, an alarming fire was discovered by the policeman on duty to be raging in the parlours of the house, No. 5, Somerset-street, Manchester-square, in the occupation of Madame Serinett Le Miner, a French lady of fortune. An alarm was immediately raised, and the inmates having effected their escape, the fire was fortunately confined to the rooms before mentioned; the loss, however, was considerable, as the whole of the furniture, paintings, &c., therein were entirely consumed. The property was insured.—On same night at ten o'clock, another fire broke out on the premises in the occupancy of Messrs. Thompson, machine-rulers and vellum-account-book-manufacturers, situate at 122, Old-street, St. Luke's. A plentiful supply of water was obtained from the different fire-plugs belonging to the New River Company, from which the engines were worked; and after one hour's unremitting exertions on the part of the firemen, the fire was confined to the premises in which it originated.

SUDDEN DEATH OF G. A. MUSKETT, ESQ.—On Tuesday morning George Alfred Musket, Esq., the banker, of St. Alban's, and formerly member for that borough, fell down in a fit of apoplexy and immediately expired. Mr. Musket had just arrived in town from Rickmansworth. We understand that the deceased gentleman leaves two amiable daughters to lament the catastrophe, which occurred at the residence of his brother, Major Musket.

SPORTS OF ENGLAND.—No. III.



WILD DUCK SHOOTING.

The different methods of taking the wild duck afford capital sport and never-ending adventure. "Common wild fowl shooting with a shoulder duck gun," observes Captain Lacy in the "Modern Shooter," "has long been in vogue, and has often been the theme of ancient sporting authors; but, until Colonel Hawker's work appeared, wild fowl shooting on salt-water had scarcely been touched upon; still less had any one of 'gentle blood' ventured to commit his valuable case to 'the vasty deep,' in case so fragile as that eylet a shooting punt. The merit, therefore, of having invented this new pleasure, or, at least, of having added it to the stock of sporting recreations, attaches exclusively to the gallant colonel. As a practical performer he is most successful, and is, perhaps, the very best wild fowl shot round the British coast. Hail, Hawker! Mac Adam of duck shooters, hail!" The colonel's well-known book contains the modes of hut shooting, &c., and some particulars relating to decoys.

The Yankees have what they call their "ducking," i.e. when they form a party to go shoot ducks on Duck Island, in Chesapeake Bay. These are the celebrated canvass-back duck of the American gourmand, and the estimation in which they are held may be gathered from the fact that, in Baltimore market, the price of a single duck is one shilling, whilst the common wild ducks are but threepence a couple. The former has been

acclimated in Britain, and why the breed has not been more extensively encouraged is somewhat surprising, as they are sizeable and handsome birds, and, as a table luxury, most delicious.

The usual weight of the mallard or drake is about 2½ lbs., and that of the duck somewhat less; but the foreigners are generally larger than the home-breds. Captain Lacy has shot wild ducks in the Tees Bay above six pounds and a half the pair; but, if much beyond this weight, their purity of breed may be suspected. Wild ducks, excepting a few home-breds, whose full-grown ones are fine eating in August, do not appear in the Tees Bay until November, or, at all events, in any number worth mentioning. The mallards are in very poor condition after the middle of February; not so the ducks. The captain adds: "a common trick played upon the London cockneys is to serve them out with a couple of shell ducks in lieu of wild ducks. The heads and white legs of the former having been cut off, and the birds plucked, as they are just about the size of the latter, and always look plump, they sell better, and it is thus that wild ducks are labelled for eating so 'fishy!'" The captain enthusiastically sings:—

"If tame-ducks were wanting,
And wild-ducks were flown,
Oh! who would inhabit
This bleak world alone!"



PHEASANT SHOOTING.]

On Wednesday last, the 1st of February, pheasant and partridge shooting ended; although in most parts of the country where the game is attended to but few birds have been brought down of late, as the remarkable mildness of the present season has led the birds to pair very early this year. The country bears all the marks of spring. "The tit-mouse seeks its food through the straw thatch—the fieldfares, skylarks, and red-wings are busy on the same errand over wet meadows—the sparrows and yellow-bambers and chaffinches, still beautiful, though mute, glean from the straw and chaff in the farm-yard—while the ring-dove comes for her meal to the ivy-berry. The red-breast comes to the window to amuse with his familiarity, or, as the gardener turns over the loosened soil, seeks fearlessly within a few inches of the spade the insects upon

which it feeds." Our illustration will serve to keep in remembrance the sports of the past winter, until the 1st of October, with its leafless trees and almanack memento—right pleasant to sportman's eye—"Pheasant shooting begins"—affords the time for again testing hand, eye, and gun.

Before the present battue system became general, the pheasant was considered a prize far more worthy of the sportsman than the bird is now regarded. In a wild state, the pheasant, difficult to get at, gave great sport, and when brought down was prized accordingly. It is now, however, more like shooting from a trap—a matter rather of skill and profit than of sport. Indeed, many "lords of the manor," in these game-selling days, send their pheasants to market as regularly as they do their sheep. In a state of nature pheasants frequent

woods where the grass is long and tangled, and within easy distance of water. Corn is a favourite food, as those who sow it know, but when this is absent, wild berries and acorns supply its place. The hen lays about twelve eggs, and the young follow her like chickens as soon as they are out of the shell, searching for ants' eggs and other food. If scared, they seek the woods, and only issue thence mornings and evenings.

Mr. Greener says, "Suppose you begin with two drachms of powder, and vary the charge one-eighth of a drachm, each shot, up to three and a half drachms, or as may be required, according to the length and bore of the gun, and, for precision, taking three shots with each charge at a sufficient number of sheets of paper, whichever you find strongest with the least quantity of powder, that is the best charge; as, very likely, the two next additions of powder will shoot equally strong, and yet not stronger, because more of it remains unburnt: the least quantity that shoots equally strong is the proper charge, which, having once ascertained, never change for any person's plan. All guns, according to their bore and length, will shoot a certain weight, and a certain size of shot best. A great deal of shot in a small bore lies too far up the barrel, and creates an unnecessary friction, and the shot, by the compression at the moment of explosion, becomes all shapes—a circumstance which materially affects its flight."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"G. G."—Not suitable.
 "C. S."—The imperfection is undeniable, but those things will occasionally occur in the "best regulated paper."
 "A. E."—To show that we are also on our guard, we know nothing whatever of the bubble company alluded to.
 "H. J."—Barnstaple, knows nothing of our extraordinary resources.
 "M. Y. R."—Milnthorpe.—Under the circumstances stated, we cannot recommend Sydeny.
 "Herbertus."—Not at present.
 "G. H. W."—Kilkenny.—We have already devoted sufficient space to the subject. Can our Newtonbarry Correspondent furnish us with the drawing? if so her wishes shall be complied with.
 Several Cornish correspondents request us to correct an error in our last with regard to the wreck of the "Lily," which really occurred on the Tauton Sands, and not on the coast of Cornwall. They are anxious that the obloquy which the affray between the wreckers and the coast guard was calculated to produce should be removed from that interesting portion of her Majesty's dominions.
 "Oscar."—Manchester.—The whole of the numbers will be shortly reprinted, where he can get what he requires by applying to Mr. Barton, Manchester.
 "M. W. D."—Teignmouth, Devon, should try his hand on a better subject.
 "A. B. C."—"Civis," and "Sex," City.—The critiques are judicious, and we well meant have our thanks.
 "Enquirer," Stamford.—The case comes within the prohibited degrees of consanguinity.
 We cannot undertake to return rejected contributions.
 We shall be happy to receive the promised articles from our Wood End, Scarborough, correspondent.
 "E. H."—The translation from the German is a little too free. Try again.
 "A. T."—complaint shall be entered into.
 The Rev. Mr. Wilson must judge for himself.
 "C. E. S."—Yes, they all do.
 "• • •" Bolton.—We sacrificed our inclination, as well as our space in yielding to the usage in such cases.
 "Scotus."—The subject matter of the suggestions has been already descended on.
 "Z. Y. C."—A saddler.
 "Philidore" shall be gratified in our next.
 "A constant subscriber to your paper."—Another three months' subscription will entitle him. The other question next week.
 "X. Y. Z." in our next number.
 "C. O."—St. Albans.—We cannot undertake to return rejected contributions.
 "A. B. C." and "An old Admirer and Constant Subscriber."—The letters referred to the writers of the articles.

Part VIII. shall be ready next week.
 Vol I. A few hundred copies more will be ready in a few days.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1843.

Parliament was opened on Thursday by commission, the Lord Chancellor reading her Majesty's speech, for which, together with all the proceedings up to the time of our going to press, we refer to the supplement accompanying this day's paper, which we have the pleasure to present with kind good-will to our readers.

The speech itself is of course the immediate topic of discussion, and upon this we have some commentaries to make. It is, in a great measure, like all orations from the throne—whether delivered royally or by proxy—of that vague, indefinite diplomatic cast, which excludes the utterance of anything of tangible form and pressure, although it leaves "ample room and verge enough" for deductions, for or against the government, according to the party logic of the time. We shall endeavour to seize upon its topics in a more enlarged spirit, and to state our anticipations of its meaning with the independence and frankness of confirmed neutrality.

The first two paragraphs are of considerable moment:—

"My LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,
 "We are commanded by her Majesty to acquaint you that her Majesty receives from all Princes and States assurances of a friendly disposition towards this country, and of an earnest desire to co-operate with her Majesty in the maintenance of general peace."

"By the Treaty which her Majesty has concluded with the United States of America, and by the adjustment of those differences which, from their long continuance, had endangered the preservation of peace, her Majesty trusts that the amicable relations of the two countries have been confirmed."

The first of these passages indicates in a moral sense the uncertainty of human calculations; the second implies something like a conviction of misplaced confidence, even in the fair-promising results of the Ashburton treaty. In the face of the friendly aspect of affairs presented by our foreign relations, the same day brings us the intimation that the Prime Minister of France is defeated in the Chamber upon the initiative step in the abrogation of the treaties of 1831 and 1833—a step which, if successfully followed by the opposition, would be the leading provocative to an European war; while, on the other hand, the remarkable speech of Mr. Linn to the American Congress, and the manner in which it was received by the republican parliament, evinced the very presence of the spirit of war within the heart and focus of American legislation.

The result of our hostilities with China is touched upon in a becoming manner, and with no too vauntful assurance; and we are pleased to find that the improve-

ment of commerce is held out as our best inducement for congratulation upon the termination of a successful, though not too brilliant war.

"Her Majesty rejoices in the prospect that, by the free access which will be opened to the principal marts of that populous and extensive empire, encouragement will be given to the commercial enterprise of her people."

It is possible that further commercial advantages will arise to us from the treaty with Russia alluded to in the speech:—

"Her Majesty has concluded with the Emperor of Russia a treaty of Commerce and Navigation, which will be laid before you. Her Majesty regards this treaty with great satisfaction, as the foundation for increased intercourse between her Majesty's subjects and those of the Emperor."

One circumstance very important to the cause of humanity, and altogether of a Christian and civilizing tendency, is thus quietly confirmed.

"In concert with her allies, her Majesty has succeeded in obtaining for the Christian population of Syria the establishment of a system of administration which they were entitled to expect from the engagements of the Sultan, and from the good faith of this country."

The victories in Afghanistan are treated with temperate discretion. The speech refers chiefly to the success of the military operations, without insinuating any approval of the civil government, in so far as the administration of Lord Ellenborough is concerned, and it conveys a joyful sympathy for the liberated British prisoners in whose fate her Majesty is (we doubt not, in this instance, with some personal truth) represented as having felt a virtuous, an anxious, and, we are happy to believe, a characteristic, interest. The speech also settles the question of the non-occupation by our armies of the countries westward of the Indus.

In the address to the Commons the gratifying intelligence is conveyed (an "Io triumphe" for Joseph Hume) of a reduction of the naval and military forces—and people expect to find taxes, and soldiers, and sailors wholesomely decreasing together in times of peace. Let Government see that it do not breathe "the word of promise to the ear and break it to the hope."

The recent diminution of revenue is rather the subject of explanation than of disclosure. It implies that the Income-tax is only partially collected, and that the reduction of import duties has materially affected the Exchequer.

There is another more important cause of deficiency, however, which we are glad to perceive is not unnoticed in the speech:—

"Her Majesty fears that it must be, in part, attributed to the reduced consumption of many articles, caused by that depression of the manufacturing industry of the country which has so long prevailed, and which her Majesty has so deeply lamented."

We cannot positively fathom the meaning of this paragraph, but we gather from it a glimpse of hope that some very earnest consideration of the general poverty of the lower orders is honestly under the consideration of the executive. Such an admission of a dreadful evil would hardly be so frankly made if some remedy were not also contemplated. But the admission is still too qualified. It is not only in the manufacturing districts that depression exists—the distress has extended to the poor of all classes. The causes of the distress are not hinted at; and, as we expected, neither to poor-laws which are, nor to corn-laws which may or may not be among them, is the slightest allusion made.

Her Majesty makes a grateful return for the kindness which she received during her recent tour in Scotland, which we had the pleasure so abundantly to illustrate:—

"Her Majesty commands us to acquaint you that her Majesty derived the utmost gratification from the loyalty and affectionate attachment to her Majesty which were manifested on the occasion of her Majesty's visit to Scotland."

By way of pleasantries we may remark that it is agreeable to find that the Edinburgh Baillies, who, at the time of the Queen's arrival, were snoring in their beds the refrain of

Up in the morning's no for me,

Up in the morning early,

have not been specially included in the royal avowal of her Majesty's satisfaction.

A subject of less congratulation is discovered in the riots which distracted the country a few months past. The government regrets and reproaches them, but relies upon the efficacy of the law to put down all such outbursts of popular tumult.

We anticipate something from the following announcement:—

"We are commanded by her Majesty to acquaint you, that measures connected with the improvement of the Law, and with various questions of domestic policy, will be submitted for your consideration."

The improvement of the law is a desideratum which we adverted to in our article of "Prospects of the Session." It is a topic, the agitation of which cannot be too earnestly regarded and encouraged by the people.

The speech concludes by the following aspiration, in which we join with heartfelt cordiality:—

"Her Majesty confidently relies on your zealous endeavours to promote the public welfare, and fervently prays that the favour of Divine Providence may direct and prosper your counsels, and make them conducive to the happiness and contentment of her people."

Such is an epitome, with comment, on the royal speech. It has little in it to praise or blame. It gives small insight into the designs of Government; but in this respect only resembles all the royal specimens of eloquence which administrations of all colours have made it an almost invariable rule to put forth. It is, in fact, an official "nothingness," and upon the principle of *ex nihilo nihil fit*, let nobody attempt to make any

thing out of it. A few reasonable indications lead to a few reasonable deductions, and that is all. People usually rush to a royal speech with curiosity, and turn from it with disappointment: we do not think either feeling worthy to be indulged. It is to the business of the session that thinking men will look. A speech is, after all, no ministerial manifesto, except when some decided political *coup de theatre* can be brilliantly put forth. Then, of course, the *bruit* and the bustle are duly made and paraded before the dust is effectually kicked up. Now-a-days, such a speech would be the *rara avis in terris* of political history.

One circumstance we may mention in reference to a commission having been proxy for the presence of the Queen. It is known that the situation of her Majesty is again delicate, and an unwillingness to expose her health to the risk of excitement and fatigue at the present juncture was the sole cause of her absence from that scene, around which her presence has more than once shed the exhilaration of loyalty and joy.

The events which have happened since our last in the French capital have been, and are, of the utmost importance, as likely to influence the destinies not only of the nation in which they have transpired, but of Great Britain also, and even of Europe at large. It has been said by Frenchmen that they would regard any re-accession to office here by Lord Palmerston as tantamount to a declaration of war. Should Thiers succeed Guizot at the Tuilleries, there are many Englishmen who would apply the same proposition to the advent to power of the new French minister. We leave the question, however, in the hands of our intelligent correspondent, whose views upon foreign questions have been, since his expression of them in our journal, most materially confirmed, and whose letter in our present number assumes all the importance of a leading article.

PARIS, 30th Jan.

THE important information I transmitted to you in my last week's communication as to the rickety state of the Soult-Guizot Cabinet is fully confirmed. I remark that the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS is the only English journal which has taken an accurate view of the position of the ministry. The common mistake in England is to reason on France and Frenchmen with only British notions, and hence it is that all the London morning journals have been so singularly in error as to what is passing here, and which you will permit us to add we regard as essentially a *crisis* affecting the existence of the most pacific and well disposed ministry that has existed since the July days of 1830. Permit us now to trace the course of events since my letter in your number of the 28th. After the effect produced by the speech of the Duc de Broglie, and the vote of the Chamber of Peers, the courage of the ministry was re-animated, and M. Guizot essayed through M. Dumon, the reporter of the Commission, to withdraw or modify the strong paragraph drawn up by M. Dupin. M. Dumon failed to procure the withdrawal of the passage in question, but he was so fortunate as to induce the Commission to modify the second sentence—that is, the Chamber in the project of address was made to express its approbation of the strict execution of the treaties of 1831 and 1833. Unfortunately the third sentence of this paragraph was allowed to stand thus:—

"But struck with the inconveniences which experience has pointed out, in regard to the good intelligence necessary to the accomplishment of the common object, we look forward with much anxiety to the moment when our commerce shall be replaced under the exclusive superintendence, of our own flag." A Cabinet council, at which the King presided, was held to consider the course to be pursued in regard to this paragraph. M. Guizot was for opposing it altogether, and in the event of defeat, for the ministry to resign. The King was of a different opinion. His Majesty contended that the passage was sufficiently vague to afford a loophole for the ministry *not* to attempt to enter on negotiations with England respecting the treaties of 1831 and 1833. After a long discussion it was agreed that M. Guizot, when his turn came to speak on this paragraph, should blame the manifestation contained therein, but at the same time should accept it. The opposition having ascertained that the ministry was resolved to accept the paragraph of the commission, had meetings. In the Thiers' *coterie* it was resolved that neither the chief nor his friends should speak on the paragraph, thus imitating the reserve of Count Molé in the other Chamber; so that neither M. Thiers nor Count Molé, the premiers expectant, could be pledged by any declarations of their own, for both these statesmen know full well the responsibility of engaging in a discussion with the British Cabinet touching the repeal of treaties that have been in execution for many years. Some of the members of the left or Odillon Barrot party, however, resolved on their amendments, making the Commission's paragraph still stronger and more significant. The leaders of the opposition, however, collectively resolved if possible to upset the Central, by a side-wind, and I have every reason to believe that the sixth paragraph of the project of address relative to the approval of the conduct of the French Government respecting the affairs of Syria will be the grand *chavel de bataille* of the opposition collectively. I know that M. Berryer proposes to speak on this question; his line of argument will be that France has only followed in the wake of England on this branch of the Eastern question,

and that France has not assumed her rightful attitude as defender of the Christian population. There will be a warm debate, and, as I think, a division, the result of which I trust to be enabled to send to you by tomorrow's post.

We have this week redeemed our promise of presenting to our readers a supplement gratis upon the occasion of the opening of Parliament. We, however, take credit for the production of a much more attractive paper than our leaders were led to expect, not only by illustrating, in the body of the journal, all the circumstances of the session-commencement, but by employing a large corps of reporters at our own expense, to enable us to publish a faithful and spirited report of the complete debates.

THE REPORTERS' GALLERY.

The opening of a new session of Parliament affords us an occasion of presenting to our readers, among other illustrations, one of great and pre-eminent interest, in which the object we propose is to place before the public a sketch of that curious machinery by which the proceedings of their legislators in all their wonderful extent and multiplicity, are made known to the immense circle of political readers which is spread throughout the almost boundless dominions of the British empire.

Several well-known members of the daily press are here represented by the artist in the act of discharging their onerous and responsible public duties in the gallery of the House of Commons. The whole scene presents deeply interesting revelation of one of the most singular portions of the economy of the vast community of which we are members. We shall not abuse the good nature of our friends by intruding on their privacy, averse as we know them all to be to be held up to the public gaze; we have much to say, and many good things to tell of them all, but we think we shall best consult the dictates of good taste by maintaining silence as to their personal history and qualifications. There is one, however, whom our readers will perceive near the centre of the sketch, to whom we cannot forbear advertizing for a moment, inasmuch as he is a very dear and valued friend of ours. There he sits, with his broad laughing face running over with frolicsome humour, stooping over the front of the desk—

Of Atlantean shoulders, fit to bear

The weight of mightiest

debates. All who are familiar with the press will recognise in him a true specimen of the Milesian, with all the fertile wit and genuine unaffected humour of his country, and one to whom our own readers have been indebted for many pleasant hours.

The parliamentary reporters of London form a very important and influential body, to which any man may be proud to belong. They have many privileges, which are objects of ambition to the uninitiated in the mysteries of public affairs. Having access to the Houses of Lords and Commons at all hours during which they are open for the transaction of public business, they are in fact looked upon as a kind of order of hierophants of state affairs, whose duty it is to explain the intricacies and obscurities of politics to the unlearned world. Attempts have often been made to describe their community, but the task has generally fallen into tasteless and uninformed hands. Having, however, better opportunities of becoming acquainted with the subject than most who have chosen to write upon it, we shall throw together in this article a few of the more striking particulars of their history, for some of which the reader will seek in vain in any other source hitherto open to the public. What should be told and what should not has been published without distinction, and that inaccurately.—*Dicenda tacenda locuti.*

Of the early reporters, it will be sufficient merely to mention Sir Simon D'Ewes, long a member of the parliaments of Elizabeth and James, who has transmitted to us in his journal whatever is known to us of the oratory of those distant times; and Burton, Member of Parliament in the era of Cromwell, whose Cromwellian diary is the only record that gives us much light as to the eloquence of the Praise-God-Barebones-Parliament, who ruled the roost in the times of the great Protector. Sir Simon and old Burton would probably have been rather to seek, if they had found themselves in the gallery in our own day, and been charged with the duty of reporting a finished oration of Palmerston or Peel; yet they were hearty and conscientious labourers in their duty to the best of their abilities, and merit the eternal gratitude of posterity for what they have preserved. They probably dabbled in stenography, or, as the phrase then was, brachygraphy; but, of course, as will always be the case with anything that is regarded as a curious accomplishment, instead of the serious study or business of life, any comparison of their proficiency in this art with that of a member of the profession would only provoke a smile. Sir Simon has, however, given us some curious specimens of the harangues of Mr. Secretary Cecil and other statesmen of the Machiavelian school of Queen Elizabeth. Strange, quaint, and almost ludicrous effusions, they seem to our modern eyes; yet they have a smack of the rare old days, and much of right English feeling. They go straight to the point, without round-about palaver; they have nothing of shuffle, subterfuge, or conventional humbug. There is one in particular so richly characteristic, that we cannot for the life of us deny our readers the pleasure of perusing it, and, if they will, of smiling at it, especially as, singularly enough, it has a direct and positive bearing on the measures of our present Premier, Sir R. Peel, and the great question of free-trade which now engrosses the attention of the world. It is a speech against monopolies made in the year 1601, in which the secretary announced the gracious pleasure of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, that the patents of monopoly, which made provisions and other commodities dear to her people, should be revoked. Our readers will not fail to observe, that the increased activity of the public mind, and the craving for political information, already produced by the transpiring of parliamentary transactions, had even then attracted the attention of the astute minister.

Mr. Secretary Cecil stood up and said, "There needs no supply of the memory of the Speaker; but, because it pleases him to desire some that be about him to aid his delivery, and because the rest of my fellows be silent, I will take upon me to deliver something which I both then heard, and since know. I was present with the rest of my fellow-counsellors, and the message was the same that hath been told you; and the cause hath not succeeded from any particular course thought upon, but from private information of some particular persons. I have been very inquisitive of them, and of the cause why more importunity was now used than afore; which, I am afraid comes by being acquainted with some course of proceedings in this house." There are no patents now of force which shall

not presently be revoked; for what patent soever is granted, there shall be left to the overthrow of that patent a liberty agreeable to the law. I take it, there is no patent whereof the execution hath not been injurious. Would that they had never been granted! I hope they shall never be more, (All the House said, Amen). I dare assure you from henceforth there shall be no more granted. They shall all be revoked. But to whom do they repair with these letters? To some out-house, to some desolate widow, to some simple cottage, a poor ignorant people, who, rather than they would be troubled, and undo themselves by coming up hither, will give anything in reason for these caterpillars' satisfaction. The notice of this is now public, and you will perhaps judge this to be a tale to serve the time! but I would have all men to know thus much, that it is no jesting with a court of Parliament, neither dares any man (for my own part I dare not) so mock and abuse all the states of this kingdom, in a matter of this consequence and importance. I say, therefore, there shall be a proclamation general throughout the realm, to notify her Majesty's resolution in this behalf. And because you may eat your meat more savoury than you have done, every man shall have salt as good and cheap as he can buy it, or make it freely, without danger of that patent, which shall be presently revoked. The same benefit shall those have which have cold stomachs, both for *aqua vitae* and *aqua composite* and the like. And they that have weak stomachs, for their satisfaction, shall have vinegar and alegar, and the like, set at liberty. Train-oil shall go the same way; oil of blubber shall march in equal rank; brushes and bottles endure the like judgment. The patent for pouldavy, if it be not called it shall be. Those that desire to go spruce in their ruffs, may, at less charge than accustomed, obtain their wish; the patent for starch, which hath so much been prosecuted, shall at length be repealed. But not to make any further performance of the well-uttered, and gravely and truly delivered speech of the Speaker, I must crave your favours a little longer to make an apology for myself. I have held the favour of this house as dear as my life, and I have been told that I deserved to be taxed yesterday of the House. I protest my zeal to have the business go forward in a right and hopeful course; and my fear to displease her Majesty by a harsh and rash proceeding, made me so much to lay aside my discretion, that I said, it might rather be termed a school than a council, or to that effect. But by this speech, if any think I call him school-boy, he both wrongs me and mistakes me."—*Parliamentary History*, vol. i. p. 934.

A happy memory to Mr. Secretary Cecil, say we! and may all present ministers follow so good an example. And so long live our gracious Queen and all her true and real councillors.

Sir Simon D'Ewes and Burton belonged to the class of amateur reporters, of whom Sir Henry Cavendish, M.P. for Lostwithiel, was afterwards the most distinguished member. This gentleman sat in Parliament during the early part of the reign of George III., and at a time when reporters were excluded from the house, and his taste and industry led him to take notes of the debates of those days in short-hand. The results of his labours long remained concealed; but having now, by a happy accident, been discovered, they are at the present moment in course of publication in London. They extend over the period from 1768 to 1774, comprising the entire duration of that which has hitherto been known as the unreported Parliament. This was an epoch fertile in orators, as well as in great occurrences. Burke and George Grenville were then the ornaments of the House of Commons; Charles Fox had just entered it, and was fast rising to eminence. The debates on the prosecution of Wilkes and the riots of 1768, on the American policy of Great Britain and on the Government of Canada, are full of the most lively interest, and have been well preserved in many portions by Sir Henry. He was at first only able to give short reports, but he improved by practice, and gradually became what we should now call a very efficient man, although what has yet been published by no means establishes his claim to be called first-rate. Sir Henry afterwards went to Ireland, in the government of which country he filled various important offices. We would fain add the name of Daniel Defoe to this list, although we are obliged to confess that his claims are much more slender and less distinct. However, in his "History of the Union of England and Scotland," he has given several of the speeches in the Scottish Parliament during the fierce debates on the union, with a minute account of the proceedings on that grand measure. He himself tells us that he attended the house for the purpose, being then in Edinburgh. The celebrated speech of Lord Belhaven, which he has given in the work, was obtained from the orator himself, but those of Setoun, Fletcher of Saltoun, and other famous Scottish patriots, we may be allowed to believe were reported by Defoe himself.

Accounts of the more interesting debates during the reign of Anne and the early part of George I. were published from time to time, and may be found in various compilations of that period. But the first persons who embraced reporting as a regular profession were Gordon, Guthrie, and Dr. Johnson. The former were men who attained a respectable position in the literature of their day—Johnson is a man who will never be forgotten, and of whom the parliamentary reporters may well be proud. His career, indeed, furnishes a great, important, and spirit-stirring lesson, which should never be forgotten by aspirants after honourable fame, while struggling with the innumerable difficulties which in London beset the entrance to every profession. To this great man may be applied the lines which were framed of one very different—but who had still some strong points of resemblance to him—Robert Burns:

A kind, true heart, a spirit high,
That could not fear, and would not bow,
Were written in his manly eye,
And on his manly brow.

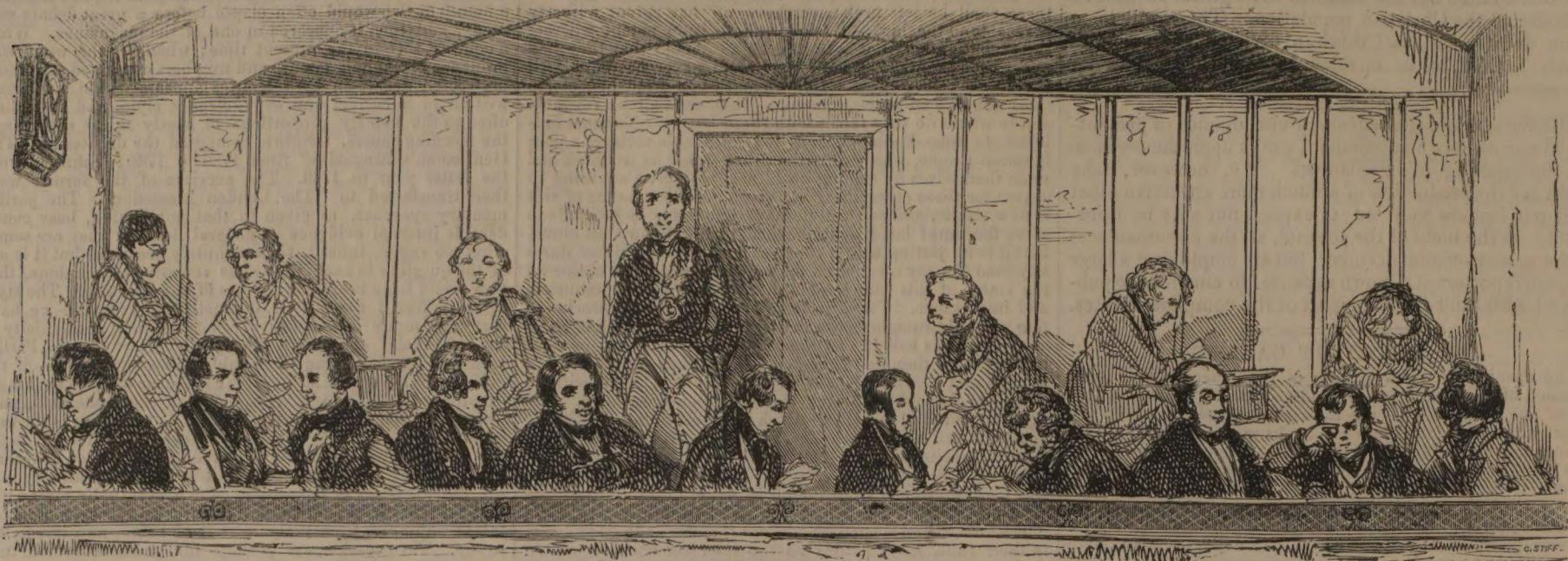
Gordon and Guthrie both belonged to a people whom Johnson professed to dislike (though it was more pretence than reality)—the Scots; and we have often thought that, among other causes which may be assigned, his hatred might in part be traceable to some collision or cause of difference having taken place between him and these men, of which no record remains. Gordon is best known by his translation of Tacitus and his political discourses, but his writings were multitudinous. He obtained, probably through Sir R. Walpole, a lucrative place in the excise (a thing which never happens now-a-days to any one in the same profession), and died in 1750. Guthrie's "Histories of England and Scotland," and his "General History of the World," were creditable performances for their day: they now rest in peace and quietness. He was a man of eccentric habits, of considerable talent, and of vast industry. In 1745 he obtained a pension, which he held to his death in 1770. An amusing anecdote is told of him somewhere, that during the recess of Parliament he used to retire from London to a hut in the wild recesses of the Highlands, to live with himself, and fly for a time from human society, whence, on the opening of the session, he would again return, and re-appear among the crowd of London. Gordon was the earliest, but we believe the exact period over which his labours extended is unknown. Newspapers were then

of small importance, and made no attempt at regular reports; a month or two would often elapse before a great debate was ready, and then it appeared in one of the magazines. What a contrast this to the present time; when, by the wonderful influence of capital, talent, and numbers combined, the most protracted debate in both Houses appears within six hours, written in a correct and even elegant style, and extending often to the comely proportions of nearly thirty columns of the morning papers. Guthrie composed the debates for "The Gentleman's Magazine" from 1736 to 1740; Johnson, from the latter year to 1743. The services of the former were then transferred to "The London Magazine." The parliamentary speeches, as given in that publication, bear considerable internal evidence of general fidelity: they are somewhat too vague, indeed, to be minutely accurate, but it is out of the question to suppose, as has sometimes been done, that they could have been fabrications of the literator. The style of the different speeches is distinctly marked, and we have met with many corroborative proofs of their authenticity in the "Memoirs of Horace Walpole," "Hardwicke's Parliamentary Journal," and other publications and records of the period. Some of Sir R. Walpole's speeches are also strikingly accordant with the manuscript notes of that statesman, published after his death by Archdeacon Coxe. This is the case with the version of his celebrated speech in defence of his policy and personal character, delivered on the 13th of February, 1741, in reply to the furious attack of Sandys, Pulteney, and the other orators of opposition, which eventually forced him to retire from office. Whether Guthrie and his assistants obtained any notes from Walpole it is of course now impossible to say. The occasion was perhaps the greatest that had then ever occurred in the parliamentary history of the country, and was productive of a debate of unexampled length and vehemence. The galleries were crowded by ten o'clock. The debate began about half-past one (for the house then met early in the day), and lasted till seven o'clock next morning. Walpole made a brilliant and, on the whole, a sound and just defense. His great opponent, Pulteney, was so delighted with it, that a few nights afterwards he could not refrain from crossing the house to the treasury bench, where, sitting down by Walpole, he expressed his admiration of the effort he had made. Walpole modestly declined the compliment, and mentioned the speech of Sir W. Young, the secretary-at-war, as being much better. "It was fine," Pulteney replied, "but not of that weight with what you said." This little anecdote is in the highest degree interesting, as one among a thousand proofs which we could give, if space permitted, that statesmen are not the cold and heartless beings which men of inferior minds are fond of representing them to be.

The credit of Johnson's debates is more doubtful, as they bear in every page marks of his own peculiarities of style too plain to be mistaken. He was too indolent to attend the gallery regularly, yet there are coincidences of thought, and even expression, between them and other records of the debates of those days, which show that they are far from being without value, even as reports. It is known that at a dinner where he was present with Francis, Foote, Wedderburn (afterwards Lord Loughborough), and others, he claimed the magnificent burst of eloquence, familiar to every one, as Mr. Pitt's reply to Horace Walpole, as entirely his own composition, declaring that he had written it in a garret in Exeter-street. This is so far corroborated by other evidence, that Mr. Speaker Onslow (we think it is) states that nothing of the kind took place on the occasion on which Johnson introduces it. The matter, however, is somewhat doubtful; if it did not occur then, it may have occurred on another evening incidentally. At all events, if we choose to assent to this claim, we must admit that Johnson was a party to a fraud on the public of that day, not exactly consonant with his general integrity, nor with the elevated precepts of morality he so often inculcated. However this may be, we can well afford to forgive him twenty such impositions for one speech such as he has put into the mouth of the immortal Chatham. Coming to a later day, the most celebrated reporters were Woodfall and Perry, who flourished towards the close of last century. Although the debates of this period are very unequally written, these and other men have yet preserved to us many invaluable specimens of the eloquence of Fox and Pitt, with their great co-peers, Sheridan and Burke. We know that men nearly connected with Mr. Fox have represented his speeches, as given in the Parliamentary history, to be utterly worthless in point of genuineness; but, after careful examination, we are fully satisfied that this hypothesis is untenable. His speeches on the coalition, on the Irish Commercial Resolutions, on the French Treaty of 1784, on the Westminster Election, on the Russian Armament, and others may be cited as excellent specimens of his style. He never corrected more than one or two speeches, and these Lord Brougham (not a bad judge of such matters) has pitched upon as the very worst. Lord Erskine, in a letter printed at the beginning of the collection of Fox's speeches, speaks of them as giving nothing but the *caput mortuum* of his style. It may appear presumptuous to differ from so great a man; still we must be allowed to think otherwise. To state our reasons briefly, many of the speeches appear every way worthy even of Charles Fox, perhaps the greatest of modern orators; and, allowing for all the varieties produced by difference of occasion, by the various temper and mood of the orator himself, as well as by the various reporters into whose hands he fell, there is still such a pervading likeness as can only be accounted for on the principle of a general, though not perfect, fidelity in the reports. Of Mr. Pitt's speeches, that on the coalition, in the peroration at least, seems to be as perfectly reported as it could possibly be, even at the present day. His invective against the French Convention, on the declaration of war in 1793, is also well given, and must have produced a great effect in stirring up the passions of the public at that tremendous crisis.

Perry was a man of prodigious memory, to which he is said to have trusted much in his reports. He is still well remembered, and many anecdotes are told of him. Contemporary with him, and later, were many reporters, who afterwards attained to the highest distinctions in other walks. Among others, Sir James Mackintosh, Lord Campbell, and Lord Eldon may be mentioned. There were some men, too, whose memory yet survives, whose eccentricities did not, perhaps, reflect much honour on the profession. Among these was Peter Finnerty, the friend of Hazlitt, of whom a hundred odd stories are current—most of them little to his credit. Peter was a clever fellow, and, we believe, well enough informed but we fear he was a sad scamp. It was he who, being in the gallery during a pause in the business of the House, called for "a song from Mr. Speaker," and when the messenger inquired for the offender, pointed out an innocent Quaker sitting next him, who, to his utter consternation, was forthwith removed in custody. These and such like stories make many unthinking persons laugh, but suggest other emotions to the judicious. They are not best liked by the highest class of the profession of which we have been speaking. Another freak of Mr. Finnerty's occupied the serious attention of the House,

* Our readers probably know that to make public anything that passes in the House of Commons was, and indeed still is, a high contempt and breach of privilege, although the rule is not acted upon.



THE REPORTERS' GALLERY

for more than one evening, in 1819. The proceedings, which are eminently absurd, may be seen in "Hansard's Debates." They ended in Mr. Finerty's being publicly reprimanded and admonished by the Speaker.

On looking back to the views and expressions of the various speakers, in reference to the public press, on the occasion to which we have just referred, and comparing them with those exhibited in 1833, on the discussion of Mr. O'Connell's complaint against the *Times*, for a breach of privilege, it is impossible not to congratulate the profession on the great advancement which it had made during the interval in respectability as well as in importance—an advancement that has steadily continued, with a progressively increasing acceleration of movement, up to the time at which we write. In 1833 the highest testimony was borne by Sir R. Peel, our present eminent Premier, to the abilities of the parliamentary reporters, their fidelity, zeal, and industry in the discharge of their arduous duties. He then stated a fact which, if all circumstances be considered, will be found very remarkable; that he had never, during the ten years for which he held the seals of the Home Department, received a single application for any place under government, as a reward for newspaper or other reports, from any member of the profession. A more honourable proof of the disinterested impartiality by which they are actuated, and which we have ourselves means of knowing to be their universal sentiment, could not be desired. On the occasion we have mentioned, members of all parties concurred in Sir R. Peel's general laudation.

We must now draw to a close this article, which is extending to rather inconvenient length. We will add that the profession is now adorned by men not inferior in natural talent or acquired attainments to any of their predecessors, although its increased labours and difficulties, in modern days, prevent them for the most part from devoting that attention to other pursuits which would give their reputation greater publicity. It would be invidious to enter into particulars, and odious to draw comparisons. All the morning newspapers are reported by men who are fully competent to discharge the duties expected from them, which necessarily vary to a certain extent, and within certain limits according to the general character of each journal, but without any reference whatever, in this department, to the party politics of the paper. The profession is one which tasks both the physical and mental powers of men to an extent of which the general public have little or no conception. It is one too, we lament to have to add, of which the rewards are but slender in proportion to the toils; and not least dispiriting is the reflection that those who follow it, die like the heroes of Ossian, "without their fame," not indeed unwept nor unhonoured, but certainly unsung. No part of

the economy of society is unimportant; and a class of men whose duty it is to record and preserve to posterity the eloquence of their times, which otherwise would for ever perish, ought to be held in especial honour and regard as performing functions of high consequence to the state. The parliamentary reporters of London form by far the most ancient body of the kind; in France nothing of the sort existed till 1790, when Dumont, the friend of Mirabeau and Bentham, with other contemporary literary men, reported the debates of the revolutionary legislatures in the journals of the day. The French reporters have now attained unquestioned proficiency, but, on a fair general comparison, must be held inferior in all respects to our own. Certainly they have as yet produced no great men. Of the American press, we will only say that the New York journals alone have some good reporters. The Washington papers, which give the proceedings of Congress, are written and reported in a manner that would disgrace second-rate provincial newspapers in England. They are, in fact, for a country like the United States, utterly contemptible. The reason is understood to be that the remuneration is altogether inadequate for well-educated men.

In addition to the above sketch of the position of a reporter, and the value of his occupation to the community, it may be interesting to give a few details of the mode in which those formidable columns of close print are produced, which appear every morning during the session so regularly that, like the rising of the sun, or any natural and constantly occurring phenomenon, it ceases to surprise, though the process is in reality a diurnal wonder. Only the most perfect division of labour could effect it, and by the large capital employed on each of the morning journals, this is carried to perfection. Each of the morning papers, and one of the evening journals, retains a corps of reporters in its exclusive service; the corps vary in number from twelve to twenty each, and from the time the House meets till the adjournment, one reporter from each paper is in attendance taking notes of the proceedings. A system of rotation is established, by which the gentleman "on duty" is relieved at the end of every half hour or three quarters of an hour by a colleague who takes his place, and continues the same process. The hour at which every reporter is to "go on," to relieve his predecessor, is fixed at the beginning of each week, and for that week remains the same each night of it. A list of all the gentlemen, with their hours of duty, is drawn up, printed, and forwarded to the address of each individual by the Monday morning's post; all are thus fully informed of when they will be required. This list is liable to derangement from accidental causes, illness, &c., but is adhered to if possible. Those who have their half hour in the early part of the evening will frequently, in a long debate, fall in for a second

turn; and on a very "heavy night," even for a third. But as this happens equally to all the corps, in the long run it is not felt as an inconvenience, except there should be a succession of very long and important debates in one week, when the labour falls excessively severe on the early men. On a pretty full corps, however, a third turn in one night does not happen to one individual very often. Each reporter, when his time is up by the clock on the left in our sketch (in which the minutes and half minutes are counted more accurately, we will undertake to say, than on any other clock in London), he "vacates his seat" in favour of his successor, or "relief," and hurries away with his notes to the office of the paper to which he is attached, where he transcribes them as rapidly as possible, and the quicker he can do it the better for his own reputation. A constant succession of reporters is thus kept up, and the "copy" as furnished to the printers by each of them, forms that cemented whole which reads so coherently in the columns of the paper of the next day, though produced by the labour of so many different persons. When the general correctness and fidelity of those reports are considered, the rapidity with which they are written is astonishing. The first part of a speech is frequently in type before the speaker has reached the middle of his address, and the middle may arrive in the Strand, or Fleet-street, or Printing-house-square, long before the honourable gentleman is "resuming his seat amid cheers from all parts of the House." The opening of the different lines of railways, and the practice of despatching the morning mails by them, have had considerable effect on the manner in which the speeches delivered late in the night are reported. As all the papers must be ready for the mails at an early hour, it is not usual to give the close of the proceedings fully unless on occasions of extraordinary interest. The House of Lords does not often prolong its sittings beyond six or seven o'clock, but the contingency of a protracted discussion is provided for by a list for the Lords as well as Commons. In addition to the regular reporters, each of the principal morning papers employs a gentleman whose duty it is to remain throughout the proceedings, writing a brief summary of the arguments of each speaker, from which a general idea of the debate can be caught at a glance by those who cannot spare the time necessary to peruse the elaborate report of it. This duty, performed night after night by the same individual for so many successive hours, during which he must at least listen with attention to what is going on, is even more irksome than that of the reporter, who has some change and relaxation, if it be only in walking between his office and the House. A messenger of the House is attached to the reporters' gallery, to preserve order and enforce the regulations of the Sergeant-at-Arms. No book or newspaper is allowed to be read in the gallery, the only publications permitted being parliamentary publications, the notices of motion, or the orders of the day, with which every member of the House is supplied, and a copy of which is placed in the seat of every journal, to be referred to by the reporters in succession. None but the known and accredited gentlemen from each paper are admitted to the reporters' gallery, while, on the other hand, no visitor in the strangers' gallery is allowed to take notes, if he is perceived by the attendants.

POPULAR PORTRAITS.—No. XXIX.

SIR ROBERT PEEL.

We have this week taken for our series of sketches the portraits of three individuals, whose position at the present moment renders them objects of particular interest, though that interest is of different kinds. The first is Sir R. Peel, the Prime Minister of England; the second, the leader of the opposition in the House of Commons, Lord J. Russell; and the third, the Speaker of that assembly, Mr. Shaw Lefevre.

It would be impossible, within the limits of this article, to give a detailed notice of the life and career of the Right Hon. Sir R. Peel; that career comprises a political life of more than twenty years, during which have occurred the most momentous changes. In all the discussions which these changes have produced Sir R. Peel has borne a distinguished part either as the advocate of improvements or as the opponent of alteration. It has also been his fate, compelled by the force of circumstances, to appear at different times in both these capacities on the same question. We mention not this invidiously, it was an inevitable necessity, which to have longer resisted would have produced a most frightful convulsion; and in yielding to the pressure of circumstances, Sir R. Peel acted on the truest Conservative principles. The same spirit which guided him at that important crisis has influenced all his conduct whether he has been in office or out. A disposition has lately been manifested, to hold up Sir R. Peel as an advocate of changes, and to impute to him an inconsistency for being so, while he professes the principles of Conservatism. There is an apparent inconsistency, perhaps, but it is greatly lessened on examination. If he is inconsistent at all, it is with regard to particular measures; but he has never been so to his own principles of action, which are the same now as when he first took office, now nearly a quarter of a century ago. They appear to us clear and comprehensible



INTERIOR OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

enough; his policy is to resist changes as long as they are not evidently necessary from the state of public opinion; but that when the delaying them would be destructive of political and social order, to effect them in the safest way possible. The statesman who acts on this principle will be found placed in a different position with regard to any single measure at different periods; but the change will be found to be in the position the measure itself has assumed. If we take the Reform Bill as an instance, Sir R. Peel opposed much of its principle, and nearly all its details; but when his opposition was overruled, and it became the law of the land, he "accepted it," that is, he yielded to what was unavoidable. Should the Reform Bill be attacked now, there is no doubt that Sir R. Peel would defend it, and endeavour to preserve it in its present form; but we should hardly call him, therefore, the advocate of what he had before so strenuously opposed. He uses the new system as he did the old one, as a defence, behind which he retires, in order to oppose the progress of the innovating spirit—an opposition to which is the soul and animating principle of all Conservatism. He would never originate an original line of policy, or take the initiative in proposing any great measure; but he will always be ready to clear away old obstructions when he sees the current of public opinion running decidedly into new channels. In short, he reverses Goldsmith's description of Burke, who was

Too fond of the right to pursue the expedient.

In the policy of Sir R. Peel, the expedient has hitherto appeared to be the chief consideration; and, taken in its highest sense, what is expedient and what is right will often be found identified.

Over the chief events of the past life of the prime minister we must pass very cursorily. He is by birth one of the people, as the fact of his father having amassed his splendid fortune by his energy and skill as a cotton manufacturer is generally known. He was born in 1788, was educated at Harrow and Oxford, and entered Parliament early in life,



PORTRAIT OF SIR ROBERT PEEL.

with every advantage on his side with the exception of aristocratical descent. His great wealth, however, in some degree compensated for this, as it freed him from the least tinge of that fatal suspicion to any one entering the House of Commons, the suspicion of being a political adventurer. In his first session he displayed great ability; even his maiden speech stamped him as one likely to rise to consideration in the world of politics. It was spoken as mover of the address. He successively filled the offices of Under Secretary for the Home Department, and Chief Secretary for Ireland; and, in 1822, succeeded Lord Sidmouth as Home Secretary, which office he held till 1827, when he resigned and remained out of power till the formation of the Duke of Wellington's administration. He then resumed his position as Secretary of State, and continued in it till the accession of Earl Grey to office 1830. The four years that followed saw him the leader of the Conservative opposition, when he took his place at the head of an organised band, and bating no jot of heart or hope, he gradually gathered a force strong enough to justify him in taking office as the head of a Conservative administration from December, 1834, till April, 1835.

The movement, however, was premature; the pear was not yet ripe; the Whigs had not yet broken down the influence they had acquired in the fierce struggle which succeeded the introduction of the Reform Bill. In 1841, the fulness of time was come, and Sir R. Peel, the Fabius of politics, whose tactics of delay had for some time excited the impatience of his party, again seized the reins of Government; and this time it was for a much longer tenure of power. He was made First Lord of the Treasury in September, 1841.

The talents of Sir R. Peel have had more influence in raising him to his present exalted position than his wealth or connections. His genius is not of the same high order as that of a Burke, a Fox, a Sheridan, or that of his own rival, the brilliant and ambitious Canning; but his deficiency, as compared with these great men, is rather that of the imaginative faculty than any inferiority of comprehension or clearness of judgment. Of fancy or humour his speeches present no trace, but they abound with proofs of an active intellect, cultivated with the utmost care, of untiring application, and memory stored with facts, joined with a ready command of them when required. As an orator he ranks amongst the highest in the arena where he has formidable competitors; his diction, though occasionally redundant, is always clear, and his language seems to be always at the command of his thoughts; he never hesitates, he very rarely hurries, in his address. He has another great advantage in the perfect knowledge he possesses of his audience; their modes of thought, their tempers, their prejudices; with

all these he is perfectly acquainted, and plays on them with all the skill of a performer who is thoroughly master of his instrument. When speaking warmly he frequently turns his back on the speaker and the opposition, and addresses himself to the members on the back ministerial benches, a practice which has been censured as something wanting in courtesy—but the habit seems inveterate. He is intimately acquainted with the forms and practice of the House, and he is very rarely "out of order." A memorable exception, however, occurred on the evening that Shiel made his powerful speech against the Income-tax last session. In the excitement that followed the glowing peroration, the adjournment of the House was moved unperceived by Sir Robert, who, on rising to reply, was met by loud cries of "Order!" it being incompetent to a member to speak on the main question after an adjournment has been moved. Whether it was the excitement of the scene, or vexation at being caught tripping on such a point we know not, but the Premier lost his self-possession, and for some time was unable to proceed. He got out of the difficulty adroitly enough, however, by claiming to speak upon the question of adjournment. A collection of his speeches would contain elaborate orations on every question that has agitated the public mind for the last twenty years. Questions of party interest occupy, of course, a considerable space in these addresses, but many subjects are unconnected with party disputes, such as his reforms of the criminal code, in which he continued the work commenced by Romilly, and his settlement of the currency by the bill of 1819. His measures with regard to the Corn-laws, and his commercial policy in general, though they are now more or less tinged with party feelings by those who are called on to dismiss them, will hereafter rest on their own merits. On their success or failure much of Sir R. Peel's future reputation depends. Whatever may be thought of his policy, there could be but one opinion as to the speech in which he developed it in March last; that speech and his address on introducing the corn-bill were most masterly. The nature of the topics did not admit of much ornament, but as specimens of a clear arrangement of details, admirable classification of facts, and the skill with which every inference that could be drawn from such an immense mass of materials was made to bear in one direction, these two speeches are admitted to have been unequalled.

Sir Robert Peel is an advocate of education; his addresses to the students of Glasgow University, and the Mechanics' Institute at Tamworth are among the best of his orations. He also supports the principle of national education in Ireland. He has been a liberal and enlightened patron of the fine arts. In person Sir Robert is above the middle height, and inclined to stoutness; his face is full, but colourless, the toils of leadership having long since banished the roses from his cheek. Time has also thinned his flowing hair: his forehead is decidedly good, and his eyes are of a light blue. The excessive fatigue he has undergone since his last accession to office has apparently told upon him. At the close of last session he had a worn and jaded appearance, which told of many an anxious vigil, and brought to our mind the lines of one of our old dramatists, descriptive of the life of a statesman:—

'Tis toil beyond the care
Of any artisan—beyond the toil
Of him who sweats in war; pale cheek, sunk eyes,
A head with watchings dizzy, and a bairn
Made white in youth; such the rewards that wait
On those whose labour is to tend a state.

THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES SHAW LEFEVRE, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

As a companion to the sketches of the two illustrious chiefs of the contending parties in the state, none can be more appropriate than the portrait of the Speaker of the House of Commons (the chamber of the people) the first commoner of the realm—the guardian of order and decorum in the arena where the fierce and exciting battles of politics are to be fought. The office is one of high dignity, but it also entails great responsibility on its possessor, while its duties are heavy and laborious. Except the judges of the land there is no one office in the state which tasks the energies of the individual man so much. It also requires extreme tact and delicacy in the manner of discharging its duties. The Speaker must have no preferments or partialities, personal or political; must be equally attentive to the veriest proser of the assembly, as to the most brilliant and spirit-stirring declaimer; must show the same politeness to the unknown member who, "greatly daring," ventures to put a question to "the Right Hon. gentleman," as to the Premier himself when he replies. He must preserve his temper, and be calm and collected when all around him is storm and excitement, and—last and hardest trial of all—must remain awake throughout the drowsiest harangue, when the majority of those who ought to be listeners are sleeping sweetly oblivious of the infliction, stretched on the back benches, or the seats in the galleries, in attitudes which if not exactly such as a Titian would have loved to paint, a Crickshank might be delighted to copy—their legs crossed like the effigies of Knights Templars on a monument, and with their hats under their heads doing duty as an impromptu pillow. We have witnessed such a scene many times and oft, and the wakefulness of the Speaker under such trying circumstances has filled us with astonishment at what it is within the power of human nature to endure, and left us at a loss whether to ascribe it to a strong sense of duty, for the beneficial influence of green tea. Seriously, the continual attention of the Speaker to what is passing, is absolutely necessary, for he may at any moment be called on to decide a point of order or form, for which he must be always prepared. He is the sole judge in all disputed points of this nature, and his decision is final. A ready obedience is invariably paid to that decision, but in case of contumacy he is, as the depository of the privileges and dignity of the House, invested with ample powers of punishing. The necessity of resorting to such extremities, however, is exceedingly rare, especially when the Speaker possesses the respect and esteem of all parties, which is eminently the case with Mr. Shaw Lefevre.

The present Speaker is the son of the late Shaw Lefevre, Esq., formerly member for Reading; he sits in the House as member for North Hampshire, which he has represented from the year 1831. On the retirement of Mr. Abercromby from the chair of the House in 1839, Mr. Shaw Lefevre was proposed by the ministerial party, and was elected by a majority of eighteen over Mr. Goulburn, who was the Conservative candidate for the office. His thorough knowledge of the forms of procedure of the House, his gentlemanly learning and strict impartiality, secured him the confidence and respect of all parties, and in the new parliament of 1841 he was re-elected without opposition. His personal appearance is well calculated to conform the respect acquired by his talents. He is tall and well formed; his features are prominent, and his courage and demeanour are precisely what would be expected in the first gentleman in the land. He walks up the House to the chair with an air of conscious dignity, that is notwithstanding easy and natural to him; it is seen to reside in the man, and not to be put on with the office or its robes.

LORD J. RUSSELL, M.P.

Lord John Russell, connected by birth to the aristocracy of the land, has pursued the opposite course to his present rival in politics, and thrown himself into the front rank of those who have advocated the cause of Reform. Thus the associations that it might have been supposed would have made him side with the privileged orders of the state have, in this case, been inoperative. But Liberal principles appear to be hereditary in the House of Bedford; the traditions of their line are brightest where they speak of some "scion of their noble stock," who has gained a place in history by his opposition to the pretension of arbitrary power. The blood of the Lord William Russell, shed upon the scaffold by Charles the Second—by turns indifferent and vindictive—seem to have consecrated all his successors to the cause of freedom. Nor have they disregarded the example.

Lord John Russell is the third and youngest son of the sixth Duke of Bedford, and was born in 1792. Like most of the younger connexions of our noble houses he sought the distinction of a seat in Parliament, at a comparatively early period of life. Here for a long period he was the advocate of all the liberal measures which afterwards, either in his exertions in the opposition or his support when in power, became the law of the land. The repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, and the abolition of the Catholic disabilities were in a great degree owing to his unceasing endeavours; and this was at a time when such opinions operated as a certain bar to royal favour or official employment. He introduced the Reform Bill immediately after the Catholic Emancipation, and from two such blows the Tory ministry could not recover. It staggered and fell, and Lord J. Russell found himself included in the new



PORTRAIT OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

arrangements for carrying on the Government of the country. He was Paymaster of the Forces from 1830 till 1834; in April, 1835, he was named Secretary of State for the Home Department, which he held till 1839. Some new arrangements in the Cabinet were then made, and he took the office of Secretary for the Colonies. He remained Colonial Secretary till September, 1841, when the Conservative Ministry came into power. He has represented Tavistock, Huntingdonshire, Stroud, Devon, and Bandon Bridge, but at present he sits as one of the members for the city of London, for which he was returned in the last election. Since he has been out of office he has not taken a very prominent part in politics; he possibly feels that the strength of the opposition is not yet sufficiently consolidated to make an effectual stand against the Conservative Ministry. He gave up attending the House when the last session had little more than half expired, and left all the toils and the honours of the leadership of the opposition, for the remainder of the sitting, to Lord Palmerston. Lord J. Russell is an effective speaker, but his manner is often superior to his manner. His voice is not naturally strong, but continued practice in addressing large assemblies has enabled him to use it with distinctness. He is often terse, and epigrammatic and his sarcastic retorts are, generally, exceedingly happy; he is also very successful in his application of an extensive reading in classic, foreign, and English literature. He has a slight hesitation in his manner of speaking, but his sentences are always perfect and grammatical in their construction; they often read better than they appear to be when heard. He has some peculiarities of pronunciation which are not pleasant to the ear: thus, we have never been able to reconcile ourselves to his saying *oblige* for *oblige*. These, however, are minor points. Indeed, this absence of fear has been alleged against him as a fault. The Rev. Sydney Smith says, "He would with as little hesitation take the command of the Channel fleet as assume the leadership of the House of Commons." He certainly has two great requisites in the head of a party, moral courage and self-reliance.

In person the noble lord is rather diminutive, both in height and breadth. His features are sharp, and not handsome, but they express a great deal of intelligence. He has suffered from ill health, and his family has been visited with much affliction. There is something careworn in his countenance; and, successful as he has been in public life, surrounded as he is by wealth and honours, he has not the appearance of a happy man.



LITERATURE.

BATTLES OF THE BRITISH NAVY, by JOSEPH ALLEN, of Greenwich Hospital. A. H. Baily and Co. 2 vols. 12mo.

The naval history of this country is a favourite subject with most Englishmen, and he is unworthy of the name who does not take a deep and heartfelt interest in the theme. We can never too often repeat that it is to her glorious navy that England owes her greatness. During the middle ages, while her naval strength was inconsiderable, England was but a secondary power, her insular position rendering the sea her only means of attaining the highest rank. Edward III.'s reign is indeed graced by the splendid maritime victory of Sluys, but this was rather decided by the men-at-arms and land forces embarked than by naval skill and science. Navigation and commerce were fostered by the wise policy of Henry VII. and Elizabeth, and with the growth of maritime power the increase of her general strength and importance kept steady pace, until at length Great Britain, by a slow and toilsome ascent, fighting her way in every age against hosts of jealous rivals and angry adversaries, attained that proud height of supremacy at which she now stands. To the navy we owe our vast colonial dominions, in every quarter of the globe and every climate, from the Arctic circle to the Torrid zone, comprising regions of boundless extent and incalculable resources, from the continent of Australia to the rocky islet of Ascension, where "breaks the long wave that at the pole began." To the navy we owe, also, the most splendid series of military triumphs which history relates, achieved over every nation of Europe, the grateful recollection of which is indelibly impressed on the heart of every lover of his country. If in future ages, the most valuable portions of the globe shall be covered with nations of English descent, speaking "the tongue that Shakspere and that Milton spoke," as the inscrutable will of Providence would seem to have determined, to the navy the honour will be due. By means of that service we have been enabled to establish our foreign domination, and to defend it against all attacks.

There are several histories of the navy, all of which possess many excellences. James's and Breton's are the most important of modern days. The former is really a wonderful book, from the extent of its details, and the ability and minute accuracy with which they are treated. It, however, embraces only the period of the last war, from 1793 to 1815, or, with the continuation, to 1827. The annals of the navy, during the early periods, and even down to the breaking out of the revolutionary war, are in many respects incomplete and obscure. They are, however, sufficiently well known to impart to the relation authenticity, and the interest which depends on historical truth. Southey's "Lives of the British Admirals" is an excellent work, full of curious information; but that admirable writer was not able to complete the task he had begun. The works we have mentioned, and many others of older date we might name, are unfit, from their great length, or other causes, for a very large class of readers. Mr. Allen's book will supply the wants of those who have not leisure for more bulky volumes. It is a spirited, judicious, and succinct account of the navy from the earliest times, well adapted to become the manual of general readers. The author has selected the most remarkable exploits of our seamen—whether great battles or single-ship actions—distinguished by remarkable bravery and skill, for particular elucidation. This plan is to be commended, since it saves the reader from the fatigue and tedium he has to undergo, in wading through such a mass of uninteresting matter, invariably composed in great part of repetition, as he must encounter in very extensive compilations. We have in the present work abundance of materials, well-chosen, and sufficient to gratify any ordinary curiosity. A feature which gives it much additional interest is the series of admirable portraits of great naval commanders which it contains. These are beautifully engraved from the most approved originals, and are all of them full of expression, character, and force. We may point out those of Howard, of Effingham, and Sir Francis Drake, the conquerors of the Armada; Blake, Monk, Duke of Albermarle, Kempenfelt, Nelson, and Codrington, as especially fine and interesting. There are also many diagrams of the various engagements. We subjoin several extracts, as specimens of the style and nature of the contents.

BATTLE BETWEEN THE DUTCH AND ENGLISH, UNDER MONK, IN 1666. On the 25th of July the fleets met off the North Foreland. The action was commenced by the white squadron, under Sir Thomas Allen, who at noon engaged Evertsen's squadron; and shortly afterwards the red squadron also engaged De Ruyter, and the fight continued three hours with varied success. Evertsen's squadron was put to flight by Sir Thomas Allen, Evertsen, with his vice and rear-admirals, De Vries and Coenders, being killed. Vice-Admiral Banquier's ship was taken, but afterwards burnt, as was also the Snelk, of 50 guns. The red squadron under Prince Rupert and the duke, was also successful; the Gueiland, of 60 guns, De Ruyter's second astern, was disabled, and his squadron was so hard pressed, that, being deserted by most of his ships, De Ruyter at length bore up, and joined his squadron to leeward. Tromp's squadron was attacked with equal vigour by Sir Jeremiah Smith and the blue squadron, and so eager were the combatants, that both edged of the wind, and separated from the main body of the fleet. Tromp's rear-admiral, Houtsyn, was killed, and his vice-admiral's ship reduced almost to a wreck, having lost upwards of 100 men, killed and wounded. On the part of the English, the Resolution was burnt by a Dutch fire-ship. The whole of the Dutch were defeated, and pursued into the Wellings, none lamenting the necessity more than De Ruyter: 20 of their ships are reported to have been sunk or burnt, and 4000 men killed and drowned in this action.

DESTRUCTION OF THE FRENCH FLEET AT LA HOQUE, IN 1692.

At noon on the 23rd, the combined fleet had assembled off La Hogue, and at 3h. p.m., Admiral Russell made the signal for all boats, manned and armed, to proceed to the destruction of the ships in harbour. Vice-Admiral the Honourable George Rooke was appointed to the command of the expedition, and he accordingly shifted his flag into the Eagle, 70, which ship drew little water. The boats, under cover of the guns of the frigates of the squadron, and accompanied by fire-ships, proceeded as the night closed in to the attack; but it was soon found that there was not water sufficient for any but the smallest frigates, for the ships had been

all laid aground, and many were high and dry on the sands. The boats, however, proceeded, and notwithstanding a severe fire from the forts and shipping, they boarded six of the ships with very little loss. These were shortly in flames, but the remainder being high up on the shore, and protected by a large body of troops, could not at that time be attempted. On the following morning the boats returned to the attack, and burnt all those they had left on the preceding night: in all 16 large sail of the line, and many transports. This important service was performed with an almost inconsiderable loss on the part of the English, amounting to no more than 10 men killed; and its effect was that of seating William III. much more firmly on his throne, the destruction of that fleet having completely dissipated the hopes and prospects of James. The success was mainly due to the able dispositions of Vice-Admiral Rooke, who afterwards gave many more convincing proofs of his great abilities.

CAPTURE OF THE HERMIONE.

On the 21st of May, the British 28-gun frigate Active, Captain Herbert Sawyer, and 18-gun sloop Favourite, Philemon Pownal, cruising off Cadiz, in the hope of intercepting a rich ship expected from Lima, discovered and gave chase to the Spanish register ship Hermione. Having arrived up with her Captain Sawyer hailed the frigate, and informing them of the war, requested the Spanish captain to strike. This the captain, being unprovided for a defence, after a short time submitted to, and possession was taken of the most valuable prize which had been taken throughout the war. The net proceeds of the Hermione's cargo amounted to £319,705 ls. 6d., which was thus divided:

To the admiral and commodore	£	s.	d.
ACTIVE'S SHARE.	64,963	3	9
To the captain	65,053	13	9
3 Commissioned officers, at £13,004 14	39,014	2	3
8 Warrant do.	34,689	5	4
20 Petty do.	36,130	17	8
158 Seamen, &c.	76,132	13	0
FAVOURITE'S SHARE.			
Captain	64,872	13	9
2 Commissioned officers, at £12,974 10	25,949	1	6
7 Warrant do.	30,273	2	5
16 Petty do.	28,132	6	3
110 Seamen, &c.	53,253	14	4

The treasure from the Hermione was landed at Portsmouth, and conveyed to London in twenty wagons, decorated with British colours over Spanish, and under escort of a party of sailors. They made a grand procession, and entered London on the 12th of August, the day on which his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (his late Majesty King George IV.) was born, and materially contributed to increase the joy incident on that occasion.

RESULTS OF THE SPANISH WAR OF 1762.

No nation ever paid more dearly for ten months' war than did Spain. She lost during this short period the Havannah, with a great part of the island of Cuba, and a large squadron of ships of war; the Philippine Islands, with a great many merchant vessels; the Manilla galleon, and the Hermione.

This nation had, on the conclusion of the war, neither fleets, cruisers, nor privateers, sufficient to give any great annoyance to the British commerce; and almost any terms might at that time have been extorted from her. France also, was reduced to a very low ebb; without a fleet which could question British supremacy, she was compelled to trust only for her offensive operations to frigates and privateers. These, for a time, inflicted much injury upon British traders, but at the end of the war the coasts were nearly freed from their depredations; and the merchants who fitted them out were pretty well tired of such unprofitable speculations.

BATTLE OF ABOUKIR, 1798.

To attempt to eulogise Nelson's conduct, or that of his fleet on this memorable occasion is, we know, a vain thing; but the subject must not be dismissed without comment. Without one exception, the victory in Aboukir Bay is the grandest on record. Whether we take into consideration the determination, the ability, or the vigour displayed, or the result, the battle stands unrivalled, and will probably ever remain so. Not a blemish or the slightest insinuation to the prejudice of one ship is, or has ever been mooted; and this was probably caused by the clearness of the admiral's plans. Each captain knew perfectly well beforehand the wish of the admiral, and gallantly strove to further it. Success, brilliant and unprecedented, attended such an union, and such will ever be the effect of unanimity and skill. The gallant crews of the British, by constant exercising, had attained to such a degree of excellence in point of gunnery as will perhaps never be surpassed.

BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR, 1805.

On the morning of the 23rd Captain Cosmao Kergulien sailed from Cadiz with a squadron of five sail of the line and five frigates, which latter retook the Santa Ana and Neptune, and carried them into port. On the 24th the Indomitable, on board which were the survivors of the Bucentaure's crew, making with her own above 1000 men, were wrecked off the town of Rota, and not more than 100 were saved. The San Francisco d'Asis, another of the squadron of Commodore Kergulien, cut her cables and went on shore near Fort Santa Catalina, where her crew were saved. The Rayo, also of this squadron, not being able to enter Cadiz Bay, anchored off San Lucar, where she soon rolled away her wounded masts, and on this day was captured by the Donegal, Captain Pulteney Malcolm; but two days afterwards the ship parted company and went on shore, and of the 107 men and officers put on board of her by the Donegal, 25 were drowned. The Monarca also drove on shore after the greater part of her crew had been removed by the boats of the Leviathan. The Santissima Trinidad was scuttled, and sunk by the Neptune and Prince. The Aigle drifted into Cadiz Bay, and was wrecked on the bar of Port Santa Maria on the night of the 25th. The few remaining prizes were at length anchored about six leagues to the westward of Cape San Lucar; and on the 28th the body of the British fleet also brought up a little to the northward of them—the Royal Sovereign under jury, main, and mizen masts, and the Mars with main and mizen masts only. On the 29th the Incroyable was burnt by the Britannia, and the San Augustin by the Leviathan and Orion: the Argonauta was scuttled and sunk by the Ajax. The Berwick was wrecked off San Lucar; 200 of her crew perished with her, the remainder being saved, after much gallant exertion, by the Donegal's boats. The Defence, with the San Ildefonso, Babama, and Swiftsure, anchored on the night of the action, and rode out the gale in safety; affording a strong argument in reference to the benefit which might have resulted had the dying injunction of Lord Nelson been attended to. The San Juan Nepocino was saved by the exertions of the Phoebe and Donegal.

THE HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF CHARNWOOD FOREST. By T. R. POTTER. With an Appendix on the Geology, Botany, and Ornithology of the District. 1 vol. 4to. Hamilton, Adams, and Co., Paternoster-row.

This is a magnificent volume, printed and got up with all the luxury of typography, and illustrated with splendid lithographed plates. It is devoted to the description of Charnwood, Leicestershire, and the celebration of its historical fame and topographical beauties. Replete with antiquarian and curious information, we commend it to the favour of all who wish to become acquainted with a remarkable portion of their native land, hitherto very imperfectly known. With old Drayton, we say—

O Charnwood! be thou called the choicest of thy kind;
The like, in any place, what flood hath hap to find?
No tract in all this isle—the proudest let it be—
Can show a sylvan nymph in beauty like to thee!

LES GLORIEUSES; OU, DEUX FETES ET DEUX VICTOIRES, PAR LE CHEVALIER CHATELAIN. London, Hearne and J. Thomas; Paris, Truchy.

This little pamphlet consists of three odes, in the French language, on recent events. British successes at Nankin and Cabul, the Polish Ball at Guildhall, and the Lord Mayor's Day are the themes which the author has chosen for his muse. Like most of the lyric poets of France, his tone is often too narrative and diffuse; but there are some fine vigorous bursts of eloquence. The versification is carefully modelled after J. B. Rousseau, Voltaire, and other French classics. It is occasionally a little rough, but this is entirely attributable to the curl and inharmonious nature of the French tongue, which is less adapted for most kinds of poetry than any other European language, even that of Holland not excepted. In one passage the chevalier has imitated and surpassed Boileau, who says, in his ode on the taking of Namur by Louis XIV., of the canon's mouth—

"Vomit le fer et la mort!"

The chevalier's lines are finer—

"Dont l'effroyable sein, dans un feuage transport,
Vomit la victoire—et la mort."

The latter passage gives us another idea beyond that of the mere material of which the balls are composed. Like a good Frenchman and admirer of Boileau, the chevalier will probably consider this exceedingly high praise. We, however, do not

entertain a very exalted idea of the merits of that poet. There is one quality, very rare among Frenchmen, which ought to secure a favourable reception for his literary efforts in this country, and that is his kindly feeling towards England, and the manly spirit in which he shows that he can appreciate her numberless claims to greatness. Nevertheless, we regret to perceive, from an amusing correspondence between the Lord Mayor and the chevalier, prefixed to his poem, on the 9th of November, that he has been but scurvy used by that worshipful functionary, to whom the chevalier had the courtesy to send a copy of the ode. It appears that the Lord Mayor neglected to acknowledge the receipt of the manuscript, which justly nettled the author's pride, as a copy of another poem he had forwarded to our gracious Sovereign elicited a prompt and kind answer. The chevalier at length wrote to ask it back, and received in reply an *unpaid* letter from Tooley-street (prononcez *tout laid*, says the chevalier), stating that it had been mislaid. We really think the Lord Mayor might have shown more attention to a stranger, as the poem is very clever, and throws a sort of dignity over a ceremony which many people are now-a-days apt to think rather vulgar. At all events, nobody will be disposed to question the fact of which M. Chatelain reminds his lordship: "En conscience, sa Majesté est d'aussi bonne maison que M. Humphrey; priez donc ce Monsieur, my lord, de se rappeler un peu plus les convenances sociales."

We take leave of M. Chatelain, heartily wishing him all success in his literary career, and praying that should he be disposed to continue it, he may equal or outstrip Béranger, his country's best poet.

ASMODEUS; OR, THE DEVIL ON TWO STICKS; by ALAIN REVE LE SAGE. With a Biographical Notice of the Author, by Jules Janin. Translated by Joseph Thomas, and Illustrated by Tony Johannot. Thomas and Co.

A copy of this splendid volume has been sent to us, one of a re-issue, we presume, of the edition published a year ago, and which met with deserved success. Mr. Thomas's translation has many advantages over the older one in point of fidelity and elegance. The wood-engravings are superbly comic. All the admirers of Le Sage must be delighted with this edition.

A GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL TABLE OF THE ROYAL FAMILY OF ENGLAND, from the Norman Conquest to the present time; showing the Births, Marriages, and Deaths of its illustrious Members; together with those of the collateral Branches, and the Accession and Coronation of the Sovereigns. Compiled by JOHN JAMES YATES. Bell and Wood.

A NEW CHRONOLOGICAL CHART OF THE HISTORY OF ENGLAND, from the Year 55 n. c., to the Year of our Lord 1842, Illustrated by that of other Nations. By E. R. HUMPHRIES, Esq. Longman and Co.

Two useful tables, of which the object is sufficiently explained by the titles.

CHAMBERS' CYCLOPÆDIA OF ENGLISH LITERATURE. Part I.

Edinburgh: William and Robert Chambers. The first number of a new work by the Messrs. Chambers, to be published periodically, and to consist of selections from the whole body of English authors. It is illustrated by wood-cuts, consisting of portraits and landscapes, of which the execution is forcible and full of expression. The selections are well chosen, with a view to the taste of the wider circles of readers, and will probably introduce many of our older authors to persons who never heard of them before. So far the design is worthy of approbation. The original letterpress is plainly written, in the usual sensible and practical style of the authors.

ON NERVOUS DISEASES, originating from Morbid Derangement of the Liver, Stomach, &c., occasioning Low Spirits, Indigestion, and Gout. By G. R. ROWE, M.D., F.S.A. John Churchill.

Dr. Rowe's work has now reached a fifth edition, and is one of acknowledged merit on a most important subject. It is well worthy the attention of all who suffer from the dreadful effects of low spirits and indigestion. They will find the remedies applicable to complaints of this class well and plainly stated. The cases given by the author are full of interest for medical men.

THE WORK-TABLE AND EMBROIDERY-FRAME COMPANION.

Published by C. Mitchell, Red Lion-Court, Fleet-street. A beautiful little volume, full of instructions for the pursuit of one of the most elegant and useful of female studies. It should be in the possession of every lady who wishes to provide herself with a never-failing resource against the horrors of *ennui*, and perils of idleness. The example of her Majesty, who has extended her patronage to the work, ought to be followed by every sensible parent. For presents, and as a companion in the boudoir, the work is invaluable; the heads of ladies' schools also will find their account in adopting it for universal use. All needle-work unbends and yet occupies the mind, and furnishes a relief from the cares and anxieties of life which is not to be found by any other means. This manual will enable every one who is willing to be taught to combine the elegant and ornamental part of the art with the useful; and thus purposes of high domestic importance will be attained. Round the head of the industrious fair, proficiency in needle-work binds "a wreath that cannot fade," as well as creates it under the operation of her "nimble fingers." The engravings which accompany the volume are explanatory of the process of making the patterns, as well as of their form, and will therefore be sure and lasting guides.

"Calderon's Residence and other works have been received, the notice of which we are obliged to postpone."

A letter has been addressed to the Chamber of Commerce of Havre, from the head of the marine department of that town, containing the statement of a person named Cardon, the master of the fishing-smack, the *Mere-rose*, of Honfleur, relative to the foundering of two vessels on the 13th inst.—one a three-master of about 600 tons, and the other a brig, both appearing to be English. Cardon states that this occurred off Beachy Head. He tried to get near the brig, but the weather was so exceedingly rough that he could not succeed in his intention as rapidly as he wished. He picked up a cotton jacket, probably belonging to one of the men, and as the vessel went down he could perceive a sort of sun, and the letters *WOU* painted on a yellow ground.



COVENT GARDEN.

On Tuesday evening, an English version of Rossini's "La Donna del Lago" was produced at this theatre, for the purpose, no doubt, of introducing Mrs. Alfred Shaw in the contralto part of *Malcolm Græme*; for independently of this gratification, not transcendently great is the pleasure to be received from the opera in general. There are, it must not be denied, some exquisite *morceaux* in it; but on the other hand, the style of its music is neither orthodox nor consistent always with its subject, a vice which the *gran maestro* himself has introduced, and which too often disfigures with its impudent monstrosities the most sublime and beautiful of his conceptions. The great feature of the performance was the first *scena* by Mrs. Shaw, which, in a word, was the perfection of vocal enunciation. To subdivide this general opinion, would be only to give a catalogue of all the various requisites to form a perfect singer; and then again we should be forced synthetically to aggregate them, and present them in *ensemble* to the fair representative of *Malcolm*. Miss Rainforth, in the part of *Ellen*, sang most charmingly; it is quite delightful to chronicle this amiable young lady's rapid improvement. We have not a doubt of her being very shortly at the head of the department which she cultivates so assiduously, and beg to assure her that such industry never fails to lead to fame and fortune. The other parts of the opera were more respectably than brilliantly filled, and some of the choruses, particularly the *Hunters'*, performed with accuracy and *couleur*. The opera cannot fail to prove for some time highly attractive; but we anxiously look forward to the production of something that will prove worthily of calling forth Mrs. Shaw's powers to a still greater extent than we have been delighted with, knowing, as we do, that her performance will do ample justice to the noblest conceptions of the minstrel or poet.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CHIT-CHAT.

MADAME ALBERTAZZI.—This accomplished vocalist intends visiting us in the course of the season. It is reported she will confine herself solely to the concert-room, and not appear at her Majesty's Theatre, unless the lessee be fortunate enough to induce our fair countrywoman to alter her determination.

RUBINI.—The "prince of tenors" has been reaping a most golden harvest at Berlin, the prices of admission being tripled on the nights of his performance. There is a hope that he will change his intention of retirement from public life, and be heard once more in the Haymarket.

BRAHAM.—Our veteran, or rather evergreen, vocalist arrived with his family last week at Liverpool from America. His son has had immense success in a tour through the States, and, if we may credit report, bids fair to revive the Italian admission of *Non c'è lenore in Italia come Brahams*.

THE PURCELL CLUB.—This delightful society held their annual meeting on Monday last at the Crown and Anchor; Professor Taylor, the founder, in the chair. The English musicians of the present day cannot be too deeply grateful to that gentleman, who, while he is mainly instrumental in making them acquainted with the greatest productions of the Continent, never forgets the national glory of his own country, and the undoubted claims to the highest rank in musical fame which many of his compatriots exhibited, and "highest above the rest" Henry Purcell. Though not to know something of the many sublime productions of this great man would argue oneself unknown, yet in truth how very little, after all, is the musical world of the present day acquainted with them beyond hearsay, or that traditional fame which has been bequeathed to us by our forefathers, and which proves to us the humiliating fact that we have degenerated in our musical taste! We have substituted roulades for sense, and unmeaning or opposite phrases for those handmaid melodies which, according to the fanciful Plato, wander through the spheres till they are happily "married to immortal verse." Our modern music, for the greater part, might be adapted to fifty different characters of sentiments, and hence fails to make that lasting impression which the worthies of by-gone days produced by their rigid and interpreting adherence to their text. Such is the music of the great Purcell—such music will never be obsolete; for it is founded on truth, not caprice or fashion of a day; and although it may occasionally sleep its century or two in general oblivion, yet when wakened from its trance by the devotion of an intelligent and enthusiastic pilgrim like Professor Taylor, it wakens into new life and beauty, and shows how supinely they could "raise the song and strike the harp" of old. Many compositions were performed on Monday which had not had utterance for a century and a half, at which plunged every one in the pleasant surprise of hearing the most pure and graceful melody breathing through the most learned counterpoint that perhaps was ever written by any master. Amongst these was the Coronation Anthem composed for James II.; the Ode on St. Cecilia's Day, and another anthem, all of which were beautifully executed by a host of distinguished professionals, who, perhaps, never in their life-time before had enjoyed such a vocal treat as was set before them by the good taste and well-directed enthusiasm of the worthy founder of the feast—Professor Taylor. The frequent meetings of this society would do more good towards the resuscitation of the greatest vocal school that ever existed, than all the adaptations and importations which we could lay our hands upon—stealing, or, in the words of Johnson, "naturalizing useless foreigners to the injury of ourselves."

M. BALFE.—It seems odd to prefix the abbreviation of *Monsieur* to an Irishman's name, but so it is, and accordingly we announce that the *Irlandais-Français* gave his second private concert a few nights since at Paris. The selections on the occasion were nearly the same as those of the first *soirée*, as were the singers also, with the addition of the Prince de Belgiojoso, a tenor, who is styled the Rubini of amateurs. As on the previous night several delicious *morceaux* (the compositions of the host) called forth the highest commendations, and Madame Viardot Garcia, as before, electrified a most numerous audience.

M. BENEDICT.—The *libretto* of the new opera by this able composer, which was originally written by Linley, then altered by Chorley, has, we learn, been finally *planche* for representation and will speedily be put in rehearsal at Covent-Garden.

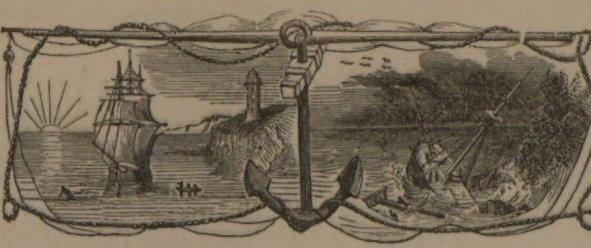
ANCIENT CONCERTS.—The Queen's Concerts of Ancient Music have been fixed to take place as follows:—March 15 and 29, April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31.

PHILHARMONIC.—The Concerts of this Society for the season will take place in the following order:—March 20, April 3, and 24, May 8, and 22, June 5 and 19, and July 30.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

CAMBRIDGE.—REGIUS PROFESSORSHIP OF DIVINITY.—The election for the above distinguished office took place on Wednesday, when Dr. Ollivant was chosen by just the requisite number of votes, viz.:—The Provost of King's, the Master of St. John's, the Master of Christ's, and Mr. John Brown. For Dr. Wordsworth are understood to have voted—the President of Queen's, and Mr. G. A. Brown; and for Dr. Mill—the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Whewell.

An exhibition has just been founded in St. John's College, which will tend to the encouragement of classical learning amongst the junior members of the university. It is termed "The St. John Post Latin Exhibition," value £50 per annum, and open to freshmen. The examination of candidates are to take place annually, early in Michaelmas term. The first examinations for an exhibition on this foundation are to take place in November next.



NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

MONTHLY MILITARY OBITUARY.—General: Browne, Colonel of 44 F. Major-Generals: P. Drummond, C. B., Dir. Gen. of R. Art.; Sir Charles Deacon, E. I. Co. Serv. Colonel: Bevans, late of R. Mar. Lieut.-Colonels: Johnstone, C. B., 26 F., at sea, on passage from China; B. Bruce, R. Mar. Major: Dornberg, h p Brunsw. Inf.; Captains: T. W. Smith, Rif. Br.; Smyth, late of R. Eng.; Boulby, h p R. Art. Hincks, ditto; Grace, h p R. Mar.; Leethmere, h p 3 Prov. Bn. of Mil.; Lord W. F. Montague, Unatt.; J. N. Ingram, Unatt.; F. Von der Decken, h p 1 Huss. Ger. Leg.; W. Pape, h p 4 Line Br. Ger. Leg. Lieutenant: Scott, 13 F.; Kett, late of R. Art.; Thweng, h p R. Art. Driv.; Semple, late of R. Irish Art.; J. Fleming, late of 3 R. Vet. Bn.; R. Hann, late of 5 dito; H. Mulhallan, h p 3 Dr. Gds.; T. Armstrong, h p 8 Dr.; H. F. Finch, h p 9 Dr.; J. B. Walton, h p Wag. Tr.; H. W. Lovet, h p 9 F.; G. Compson, h p 25 F.; Du Chastelet, h p 60 F.; W. Glanville, h p 71 F.; J. V. Jacob, h p 77 F.; J. Kelly, h p 87 F.; P. Mackintosh, h p 91 F.; Thos. Mills, h p 100 F.; Rousseau, h p Cape Reg.; Nanne, h p Dr. Ger. Leg.; Tatter, h p For. Vet. Br. Sub-Lieut. and 2nd Lieuts., and Ensigns: De Winton, 2nd Life Gds.; Humphreys, 87 F.; Stephens, St. Hel. Reg., drowned in the Conqueror near Boulogne: Wheadon, h p R. Mar.; Macbeth, h p 26 F.; J. Lewis, h p 3 Gar. Bn. Quartermasters: J. Minikin, late of 73 F.; Brookman, h p 11th Dr.; J. Duncan, h p 93 F.; Pilton, h p R. Art. Driv. Commissaries Department: Assist. Com. Gen. J. Lane. Medical Department: Insp. Gen. of Hos. J. Franck, M.D. h p; Dep. do. J. Thomas, h p; Surg. Morgan, 91 F.; Surg. Arthur Hamilton, h p 45 F.; Surg. Chas. Hamilton, h p 64 F.; Apothecary Wightman, h p; Assist. Surg. Dr. Coghlan, 19 F.; Assist. Surg. Dr. Bace, 26 F.; Assist. Surg. Dr. Camilleri, R. Malta Fenc.; Assist. Surg. Fryer, h p Staff. Chaplains Department: Rev. W. Kirkbank, h p 100 F.; Rev. H. Guinea, h p Dublin Reg.; Rev. J. Graycroft, h p. Veterinary Surgeon: Ohlen, h p Brunsw. Huss.

APPOINTMENTS.—Lieutenants: W. Still, agent to the Pestonjee Bomanjee transport, vice W. D. Aranda, in consequence of ill-health. Masters: C. P. Belamy to the Queen; John Garner to the Spitfire; F. H. May (acting) to the Frolic, vice Pascoe (sick); A. B. McLean to the St. Vincent, vice Yule. Chaplain and Naval Instructor: Rev. W. H. Eleoyn to the Endymion. Assistant Surgeon: John Jack to the Thunderer. Second Masters: John Imrie to the Megara; John Richards to the Samarang. Midshipmen: J. S. Mann to the Excellent; J. T. Dickens, to the St. Vincent. Volunteer, 1st Class: C. C. Vyvyan, and T. Underwood to the St. Vincent. Warrants—Boatswains: W. Cable, to be Master Rigger at Plymouth Dockyard, vice Trevelin, deceased; William Andrews to the Caledonia. Marine Cadets: Messrs. J. Crocket, W. S. Davis, C. J. Ellis, E. C. Domville, E. H. Budd, Charles Blake, and H. N. Gell, have joined the Excellent at Portsmouth.

The Master-General of the Ordnance desires it to be published in general orders, that, in consideration of the gallantry displayed by the Royal Artillery when serving with the troops recently employed under the orders of Lieutenant-General Sir Hugh Gough, upon the coast and in the rivers of China, her Majesty has been graciously pleased to permit the Royal Artillery to bear upon their appointments the word "China," and the device of the dragon, in commemoration of their distinguished services.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

TOTAL LOSS OF THE ARUNDEL YACHT ON THE SUSSEX COAST.—To the melancholy list of wrecks consequent on the late boisterous weather, another calamity, occurring on our own coast, is now added, in the total loss of the Arundel, bound for Hong Kong and Macao, which took the ground on Winchelsea-track, about half-past one o'clock, a.m., on Saturday, and soon after became a perfect wreck. A narrative of the circumstances has been given in a private letter from the commander, Captain Richardson, from which we give the following extract:—The Arundel left Gravesend on Thursday week for the Downs, under the care of Mr. Davidson, senior pilot to her Majesty, who conducted the squadron on the occasion of the Queen's visit to Scotland. She arrived safe in the Downs, and anchored during the same night. On the next morning she again set sail, working down channel against a strong westerly wind. All seems to have gone on well up to midnight on Friday week, at which time she was off Dungeness. In beating up the Sussex coast, it appears that Mr. Davidson, presuming on the ship's well-known excellent sailing qualities, must have run too near shore. About a quarter past one on the following morning the soundings were taken, and the result does not appear to have attracted any particular attention. On taking the next cast the vessel was discovered to be in shallow water. The pilot immediately put the helm down, but before the track of the vessel could be influenced by it she struck heavily, and soon after became finally embedded in the sand. The sea was running very high at this time, and blue lights were burned, and other signals fired, to attract attention and show their distressed situation to any of the coast-guard who might happen to be on shore. The ship made no water, but thumped heavily for two hours. At three o'clock, a.m., Lieutenant Ralph came off to their assistance, with a boat's crew, in the life-boat, from Rye. Captain Richardson at once determined on committing to his care the passengers, Mr. Vince Paris and Mr. Cain, together with Mr. Guilford Richardson and Mr. Emsworth, who were merely accompanying Captain Richardson down channel, and would have left the ship with the pilot. There being no longer any hope of saving her, the boats were ordered to be lowered, and so marked was the attention and discipline of the crew, that within five minutes of the order being given they were in the water. Captain Richardson then ordered all hands to embark, and having satisfied himself that no person remained on board, got into the boat. Within five minutes after, the sea was flowing over the deck of the ill-fated Arundel. The escape of the crew, under the circumstances, seems to have been miraculous. They were more than three hours in reaching the shore, although the distance scarcely exceeds so many miles. They were, however, fortunately, at length successful, and on their arrival found Lieutenant Ralph awaiting them on the beach. The indefatigable zeal of this gentleman, in his endeavours to save the ship's crew, is spoken of in the highest terms by Captain Richardson. The Arundel was well-known as one of the finest vessels belonging to the Royal Yacht Squadron, and was built by the late Duke of Norfolk, from timber grown on his own estate. At the sale of the late duke's property, she was purchased by Captain Richardson, who intended her for the local trade in China, her peculiar build and extraordinary sailing qualities adapting her for that service especially. She was laden with general merchandise, partly on the owner's account and partly by private merchants. She carried out only two passengers, Mr. Cain and Mr. Vince Paris.

TOTAL LOSS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S WAR-STEAMER ARIADNE.—By a private letter, received on Monday, we regret to announce the total loss of the splendid war-steamer Ariadne, in the service of the Hon. East India Company, attended with melancholy consequences, which occurred at about eleven o'clock at night, on the 23rd of June last, near the entrance of Chusan harbour. The Ariadne was an iron-built steamer, about 400 tons burthen, with two powerful engines. She was constructed upon a new principle, for the purpose of navigating the Chinese rivers. The Ariadne was 130 feet in extreme length, and about 50 feet from one paddle-box to the other. She carried two swivelled guns of large calibre, one aft, and the other before the mast. The British fleet in China, during the late war, received the most valuable service from the Ariadne and four other small steamers belonging to the navy of the Hon. East India Company. The rock upon which she struck was not before known, and was within a very short distance of the position taken up by the Algerine. It is sharp and rugged, and had not more than three or four feet over it when the vessel struck. The bottom of the steamer was completely perforated, and the compartment which contains the engines instantly filled with water. Prompt assistance was directly rendered by the sloop, and a sail was got under her bottom, which, in some measure, stopped the leak. She was afterwards taken in tow by the Sesotris, and conveyed to Chusan, and placed upon a shore. From several letters which have reached this country it appears that the steamer afterwards slid off the bank upon which she had been hauled for security, and the water rapidly flowed into her hold and different iron compartments. The boats were all instantly launched, and they succeeded in saving the officers and all on board, excepting three Chinese. These poor fellows went down with the vessel and perished. Extract of a letter, dated "H. M. S. Cornwallis, October 24.—The Ariadne is, I regret to say, irrecoverably lost. The attempts made to raise her have proved unsuccessful. The wreck lies in ten fathoms water." Upon inquiries at the East India House, we ascertained that the above was perfectly correct. Despatches had been received from Sir William Parker confirmatory of the fact. It was impossible to obtain an estimate of the value of the steamer; she was not insured. The officers are reported to have been since conveyed to Bombay, to undergo examination before a court-martial.

LOSS OF A GREEK BRIG AT RAMSEY HEAD, NEAR DEVONPORT.—The Greek brig Taxiarcos, Carlo Vafrapola, master, was wrecked at the Ramsey Head, near Mount Edgcumbe, on Friday night week, under the following really stupid and provoking circumstances:—She was from the Danube, and had a cargo of bones, with which she was bound to Hull. She put in at Falmouth, and took a pilot on board to navigate her on the coast. He having occasion to go below, gave directions for the vessel to be steered south-east. Her course, however, was altered by mistake to the north-east, and it being a fair wind, and hazy at the time, and the brig having her studding-sails set, she walked over a considerable distance in a very short time, and was almost high and dry on the rocks on the south-west side of the head-land before any one on board knew of their locality. The crew and pilot, with some difficulty, saved themselves, only one man sustaining serious injury. The vessel is fast breaking up, and very little will be saved from her. A box, containing money and some valuable articles, was picked up on Sunday on the opposite side of the coast off the Yealm. It is supposed to be the property of the captain of the unfortunate Taxiarcos.

EVERY BODY'S COLUMN.

SONNET.

I often in the wake of Time
To mark the shipwrecks of his stormy wing.—
He cares not if a joy have reached his prime,
Or if it be but in its infant spring!
One only seems his ever-anxious toil,
And that's to be inexorable foe
To everything of beauty—aye, to spoil
Whate'er in this poor man's estate may grow
Like desert-flow'r's to cheer him 'mid the waste!
And then I ask of cruel Time to know
What kind of joy or pleasure can he taste
In laying e'en earth's fairest children low?
To which Time answers with a ghastly glare,
"I love to strew the grave with sweets most rare!"—W.

PHILOSOPHY OF HEAT.

"Well, my little fellow," said a certain principal to a sucking philosopher, whose mamma had been teasing the learned knight to test the astonishing properties of heat, "what are the properties of heat?" The chief property of heat is, that it expands bodies, while cold contracts them." "Very good, indeed; can you give me a familiar example?" "Yes, sir: in summer, when it is hot, the day is long; while in winter, when it is cold, it becomes very short." The learned knight stopped his examination, and was lost in amazement that so familiar an instance should have escaped his observation.

INCOME TAX.

The following is the return to the Income Tax Commissioner, by a village surgeon, residing in the county of Devon:—
I'm sorry to make you so sad a confession
Of the profits that emanate from my profession;
But the fact is, that most of the villages round
With surgeons, quack doctors, and druggists abound;
So much so that I'm unable to clear
The sum of one hundred and fifty per year.
It would give me much pleasure could I return double,
And save myself all this additional trouble;
But opponents and bad debts beyond all redemption
Compel me to fill out this claim of exemption;
And what makes the matter so very much worse,
I've a wife and three children, and no private purse:
So from these simple facts the collector must see
He can gather no tax upon income from me.

VERY NECESSARY AT THESE TIMES.

When a man is always talking of his solicitor and suits of law, suspect him of being a fool or knave. When a tradesman writes up his name in small letters, adding from Flint's, or from Flint's, &c., to appear as if the shop belonged to Flint, &c., suspect him of having very little capital and connexion. When a man talks largely of the bargains he has made, the goods he has shipped, or the extent of his trade, suspect him to be in the high road to bankruptcy.

THE CONTRAST!

Look on this picture and on this!

1743.
Man to the plough,
Wife to the cow,
Girl to the barn,
Boy to the barn,
And your rents will be netted!

1843.
Man tally-ho,
Miss Piano,
Wife, silk and satin,
Boy, Greek and Latin,
And you'll all be gazetted!

What may be expected in the course of another century?

A PROFLIGATE.

The *Morning Post*, published at Cincinnati, relates the following anecdote of a young gentleman of the south, who had expended a large fortune, money, land, negroes, everything, in a course of intemperance and profligacy. He had just paid a last year's grog bill of 800 dollars. One day he was walking in the street very leisurely, when seeing a physician on the opposite side, he called out to him saying he wanted him to come over. "Doctor," said he, "I wish you'd just take a look down my throat." "I don't discover anything Sir," said the doctor, after looking very carefully. "You don't," said he, "why that's strange; will you be kind enough, Sir, to give another look?" "Really Sir," said the doctor, after a second look; "I don't see anything." "Not? Why, doctor, there is a farm, \$10,000 dollars, and 20 negroes gone down there!"

A CONSCIENTIOUS DISSENTER.

An amusing scene occurred at the late sessions at Durham. A witness was called into the box, and took hold of the Testament with becoming gravity, as it was thought to be sworn. But when told as usual, to kiss the book, he demurred, on the ground of "conscientious" objections, whereupon the following colloquy occurred:—Clerk: Are you a Quaker?—Witness: No; I am a Baptist.—Clerk: You must kiss the book, sir.—Witness: This book tells me I am to swear not at all.—Clerk: You must kiss the book, or you will not be allowed your expenses. These words acted like magic on the "conscientious" Dissenter, his scruples immediately vanished, and he hastily raised the book to his lips, amidst roars of laughter from the whole court.

SECRET, OR INVISIBLE WRITING.

Procure some very thin starch, with which write with a quill pen (which should be a soft one) anything that fancy may dictate. Suffer it to dry perfectly; examine the paper upon which you have written, and not one letter can be distinguished by the naked eye, however acute the power of vision may be; try to decipher it with a microscope, and be the instrument ever so delicate you will not discover the slightest trace of writing, nor will it appear by heating. Procure a little iodine which is an elementary body, dissolve it in water, and, with a camel's-hair pencil, a quill, or any other convenient article, dipped in the solution, rub the paper on the side which has been written upon; the writing will instantly appear as distinctly visible as if written with the finest ink which was ever invented.

OH! SHALL WE NEVER SING, LOVE, TOGETHER AGAIN!

For music—by Mrs. Edward Thomas.

Dost remember the song in affection's young day,
We sang while the vi'lets flung perfume around;
As screen'd from the fervour of noon's ardent ray,
We spent the sweet hour in some valley profound;

Life then was a vision, we knew naught of pain;

Oh! shall we ne'er sing, love, together again?



ROUND DOWN CLIFF (THE SHAKSPERE IN THE DISTANCE), VIEWED FROM THE DIRECTORS' PAVILLION.

GREAT BLAST ON THE LONDON AND DOVER RAILWAY.

DESTRUCTION OF THE ROUND DOWN CLIFF BY GUNPOWDER.

Archimedes, the primitive engineer, is said to have boasted he could lift the world if he were provided with a lever long enough, and a fulcrum adequate to the mighty occasion. The greatness of his genius is seen in the boldness of the conception. This, however, was a "vain imagination;" and such was the character of most of the splendid chimeras of antique philosophy. But, guided by the spirit of our immortal Bacon, it has become the exclusive attribute of the modern engineer, to plan only that which his experience tells him to be practicable, and to bound his brightest fancies by the principles of working science. Hence, his movements, however far they may be in advance of customary labours, cease to bear the character of experiments. It is in this way we have lived to witness "a mountain cast into the sea," with as little apparent effort as the "twinkling of an eye"—with the proverbial precision of an eclipse, and, at the same time, with a gentleness which, in its calm sublimity, is only comparable to "the outgoings of the morning." The glory of this miracle—its conception, its arrangement, its triumph—belongs to the celebrated engineer, William Cubitt; and the memorable locality in which it was performed is the proudest of those proud cliffs, whose "high and bending heads look fearfully" in those narrow seas, of which we hold the perpetual sovereignty.

The occasion which calls us to make these remarks is the destruction of the Round Down Cliff, Dover, on Thursday, 26th January, by gunpowder. We were present, and were so charmed by the scientific victories of the day, that for the gratification of our "million" readers, we unhesitatingly went to the expense of having a series of drawings made for their exact, as well as pictorial, illustration. These we shall now proceed to exhibit and describe.

The announcement that an explosion of 18,500 lbs. of gunpowder was to be made in the Round Down Cliff drew to that romantic spot a congress of our most eminent scientific men, a vast assemblage of the nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood, besides a numerous sprinkling of continental travellers "*en route*," and curious Frenchmen from the adjacent coasts. The lower orders of Dover, terrified by the broadside "CAUTION!" bills with which the town was posted, watched the anticipated destruction of their windows at home, or, with their children, took up their positions at respectful distances on the distant hills. Many ladies were present, and an enthusiastic curiosity led them to the "very brink" of those dizzy cliffs, from which, even on a summer's day, they would have shrunk with terror. We are not quite sure that, as the moment of explosion approached, and the hearts of the valiant waxed faint, numbers of the gentlemen who, in the courage of early dawn, had betted "not a bonnet would he present," were alone kept from running away by their brave example.

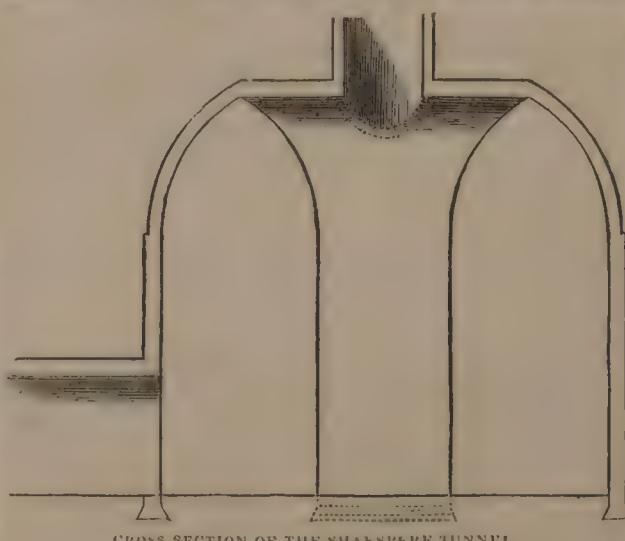
Round Down, rising 375 feet above the level of the sea, is the central and highest point of the celebrated range of chalk cliffs which run from Folkestone to Dover. On the west, towards Folkestone, the line is terminated by Abbot's Cliff, and on the east, adjoining Dover, by the well known Shakspere's Cliff. These hills are separated from the main heights by a shallow valley, through which winds the bye-road to Folkestone. Ascending from the vale they slope upwards by gentle curves to their escarpment, which presents a majestic front to the ocean of about five miles in extent, and an average height of 350 feet. This front is nearly perpendicular; but varied here and there by bold projections, which divide the beach at their feet into corresponding spaces. One of these protruding rocks—the head and front of the Round Down Cliff—it was the business of the day to remove; but to understand the reasons which prompted this noble undertaking, we must make our readers acquainted with the works now in progress for continuing the south-east railway from Folkestone to Dover.

At Folkestone, between Cheriton Downs, and East Wear Bay, the valley is to be traversed by a viaduct of great height and length. This is to be succeeded by a tunnel, called from a martello tower near it, the Tower Tunnel, one-third of a mile in length. Then follows, in a line parallel with the base of the main-land hills, as they approach the sea, a deep cutting through the chalk and superincumbent strata, two miles in length, called, after a neighbouring eminence, Warren's Cutting. Then comes the Abbot's Cliff Tunnel, one mile and a quarter in length, and now half finished, although only commenced on the 16th of August last. From the Abbot's Cliff Tunnel the railroad will be under the cliffs, close to the sea, and protected from it by a strong wall of solid masonry two miles long, and with a parapet of such a height as will not preclude passengers from the splendid marine view which lies under them.

This sea-wall will support the railway to the point at which it enters the Shakspere Tunnel. But it was found, that its direct course was stopped by the projection of the Round Down Cliff, and that this must in some way or other be removed. To tunnel it was impracticable; to dig it down would have cost £10,000, and an expenditure of twelve months' time. It was resolved by a single blast to take it out of the way—the resolution has been successfully effected, and its ruins are at present spread smoothly on "the unnumbered idle pebbles" of the shore, to form, by a fortunate accident, the platform of a grand Channel Pier for the Company.

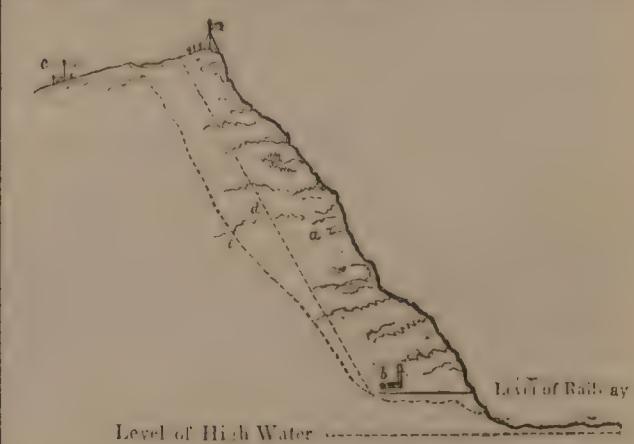
Our readers will now be able to picture clearly to themselves the scene of action, and the general character of the difficulties to be overcome. We shall proceed to narrate the events of the day in the order of their occurrence, together with such technical details as may be necessary. The scientific visitors, the directors, the reporter of the *Times*, and our artist, Mr. Stephen Sly, accompanied by Mr. William Cubitt, the engineer, and Mr. John Whitehead, secretary of the company, and their friends, assembled at breakfast at the Ship Inn, and proceeded shortly after ten o'clock to view the Shakspere Tunnel, in which a blue light was fired to make the unique peculiarities of its situation and arrangements visible. This noble *souterraine* is rather more than three-quarters of a mile in length, divided throughout, in the manner of the Thames Tunnel, by a pier 10 feet thick, each tunnel 12 feet wide and 30 feet high. This duplication of structure, together with the parabolic form of its arches, adds immensely to its strength. They are ventilated by seven shafts, which pass upwards to the surface of the cliff, their average height being 190 feet, the highest 207 feet, and by eight galleries, which run from the southern tunnel to the sea, the longest

the end of each gallery a chamber was prepared, with a box for the gunpowder. The centre box contained 75 barrels, and the eastern and western 55 each, making in the whole the unparalleled charge of 185 barrels, or 18,500 lbs. The gunpowder was placed in upright bags, the mouths open, and powder sprinkled very thickly between them. Two bursting charges were placed in each box, by which ignition in two places in each charge was produced at the same instant, and the simultaneous action of the whole charge very much facilitated. These charges were placed 70 feet from each other, the centre one (the point of greatest resistance) 90 feet, and the lateral ones 70 feet from the face of the cliff. The apparently dangerous work of packing the powder and inserting the firing-wires in the bursting-charges was completed in three hours, on Tuesday afternoon, by Mr. Hodges, the assistant engineer, and Corporal Rae, of her Majesty's Sappers and Miners. The chambers and contents were then carefully examined and approved, by General Pasley and Lieutenant Hutchinson, and the galleries and shaft closed up with tightly rammed chalk and sand. The chalk to be scattered by this latent power was calculated at about 500,000 tons; but the quantity actually removed has proved to be upwards of 1,000,000 tons.

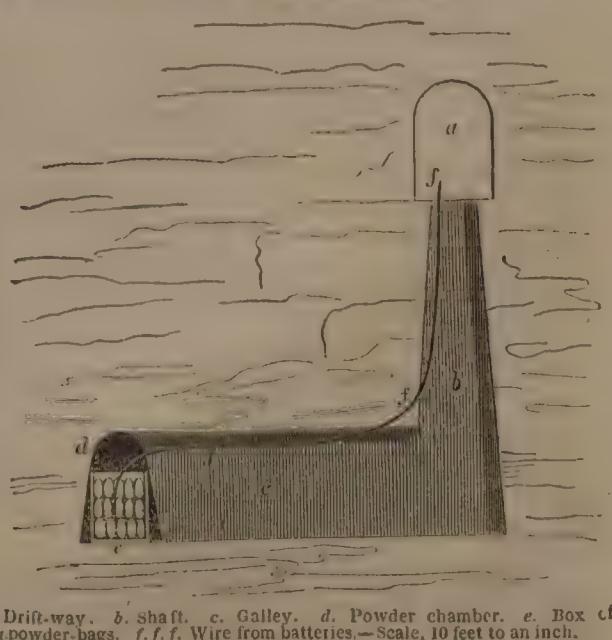


about 600 feet in length. Through these galleries the chalk was conveyed during the progress of excavation. The whole of the south tunnel is faced with brick, and most of the northern, except where, from the extreme hardness of the chalk, it was considered unnecessary. Our engraving of the Shakspere Cliff exhibits the line of towers on the top of the ventilating shafts, and the section of the tunnel, with the relative proportions of its parts. The company in their progress through the tunnel were greatly delighted by the magical effects produced by the reflected lights thrown from an efflorescence of nitrate of lime, whose crystals everywhere bedecked the walls.

On emerging from the tunnel, the huge rampart formed by the projecting cliff of the Round Down was seen at about two hundred feet in advance, besetting the beach, and opposing an impassable obstacle to the passage of the railway in that direction. The company were then conducted to its base, and the arrangements for its destruction by the dreaded blast explained. These we shall now describe. A small arched drift-way, or tunnel, 300 feet in length, running from east to west, was pierced through the bottom of the cliff; from this, at nearly equal distances, three well-like shafts were sunk, and from these again proceeded three horizontal galleries. At



a. Section of Round Down Cliff. b. Drift-way, anl chamber where the powder was placed. c. Battery house. d. Line of required face. e. Face formed by the blast.—Scale, 200 feet to an inch.



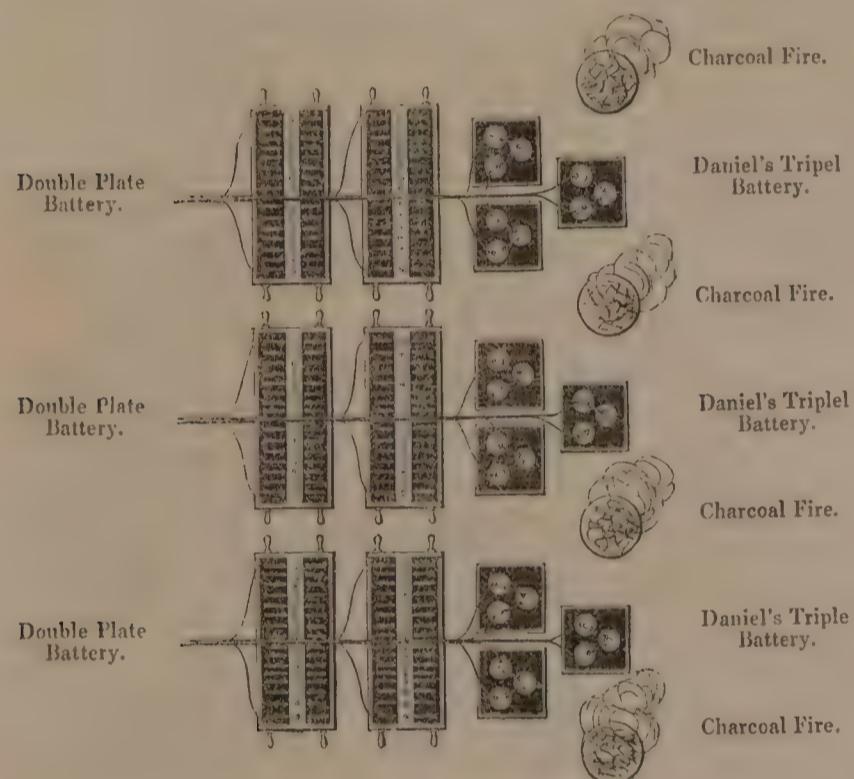
Drift-way. b. Shaft. c. Galley. d. Powder chamber. e. Box of powder-bags. f.f.f. Wire from batteries.—Scale, 10 feet to an inch.



SHAKSPERE'S CLIFF.
In the foreground the summit of the Round Down; in the distance the South Foreland.



ROUND DOWN CLIFF, FROM THE BEACH.
Showing the powder tunnel and firing line.

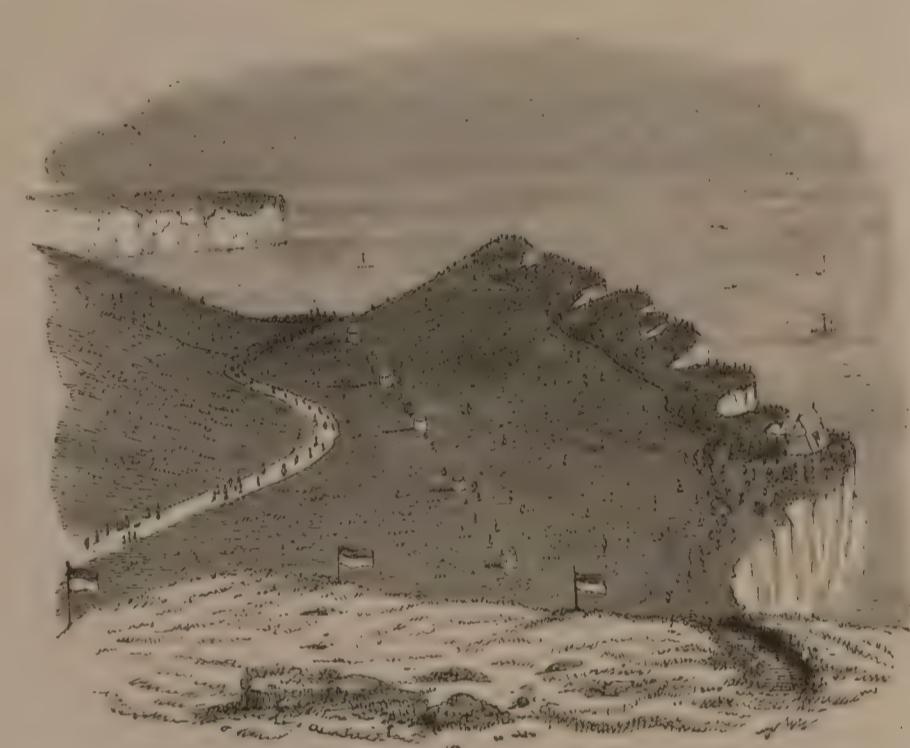


PLAN OF THE BATTERIES.

The directors and their visitors, having had these points fully explained, together with some very interesting narratives of various preliminary experiments, took a last circuit round the base of the cliff, and proceeded by a zigzag stair, cut in an adjoining cliff, to the downs at top, and thence to the battery, to inspect the apparatus for generating and conducting the galvanic "fire" to the charges. On the slope of the cliff a wooden shed was constructed, in which was placed a triple set of immense compound batteries, each one consisting of three sets of Daniel's batteries of six cylinders each, and two plate batteries of twenty plates each. From each of these batteries a wire was conducted over the cliff to a powder chamber, where it terminated in a bifurcated point of platinum, which the galvanic fluid, as it passed over them, heated to an intense white heat, to ignite the powder. These wires were composed and formed of stout copper

wires placed round a rope, to which they were firmly attached by a coil of spun-yarn, and the whole again wound round and covered by well-tarred yarn. These wires were about 2200 feet in length. Five large charcoal fires, to dissipate damp, completed the arrangements. By this time a multitude of distinguished visitors, including the officers of the Dover garrison, had reached the downs, and, joining the directors and their scientific friends, were shown to a commodious pavilion, built for their reception on the edge of the cliff, at about a quarter of a mile from the point of explosion. Among the number we noticed Sir John Herschell, Professors Sedgwick, Barlow, and Gregory, Professor Airy, the astronomer royal, Rev. Dr. Cope, Principal of Addiscombe, General Pasley, Colonel Rice Jones, Mr. Rice, M.P., Lady Herschell and her son, Mrs. Airy, and, we believe, several fair members of the Radnor, Filmer, and Knatchbull families.

Curiosity was now at its height; admiration—in which, if Burke on the Sublime be true, fear is an essential ingredient—thrilled in every nerve; speculations of the wildest, funniest, and most fearful character, struggled with each other for common audience. "What," said Professor Sedgwick, "what, if there should be a concealed fissure, a blinded chasm in the cliff beneath us? A smart vibration might throw it open!" "What then?" cried a ghastly querist. "We shall be swallowed up," groaned one. "Swallowed down," sighed another. But still—still the fascination of the cliff, and its eighteen thousand pounds of gunpowder was irresistible; and, though many fidgetted to be gone, no one budged an inch. At this time three steamers, gaily dressed with flags, passed the fated field, fired a few popgun salutes, and prudently retired to an anchorage a mile off. Half an hour of funeral suspense succeeded, when a preludious



SUMMIT OF THE ROUND DOWN CLIFF.
Showing the battery house, caution flags, line of Company's property, and the pavilion.



DESTRUCTION OF THE ROUND DOWN CLIFF.

movement was excited by the discharge of half-a-dozen thumping blasts on the face of Abbot's cliff. The multitude bowed their heads like corn before the breeze; every one looked, and looked, and smiled—but there was "no speculation in their eyes." What on earth had happened? and, worse still, what was about to happen? Eighteen thousand pounds of gunpowder was the visible thought stamped upon every countenance! The cause, however, of the alarm was soon discovered, and, as the smoke rolled past, the workmen were thanked for their politeness!

To prevent, as far as human precaution could prevent, the possibility of accident, a certain portion of the summit of Round Down Cliff was marked out by striped red and white flags, and the police and the privates of the Artillery (of whom a company was present) were empowered to let no person intrude within the line so marked out. The following bill was also conspicuously placarded in all parts of Dover, and in the roads and streets leading to the cliff:—

BLAST AT THE ROUND DOWN CLIFF.—CAUTION.

Persons are particularly cautioned and requested to keep on the outside of the ground marked off by the range of flags; a nearer approach to the blast being considered dangerous. The cliff under which the powder is placed will be distinguished by a red flag, which will be taken down five minutes before the blast takes place.

January 26, 1843.

JOHN WRIGHT, Resident Engineer.

At nine o'clock this morning a red flag was hoisted directly over the spot selected for the explosion. The wires were then tested by the galvanometer, the batteries charged, and every arrangement completed for firing them.

It was arranged that the explosion should take place at two o'clock, and, in order that the public might be prepared for it, the following account of the signals to be used was very generally circulated on the ground:—

SIGNALS.

January 26, 1843.
1st. Fifteen minutes before firing, all the signal flags will be hoisted.—2nd. Five minutes before firing, one gun will be fired, and all the flags will be hauled down.—3rd. One minute before firing, two guns will be fired, and all the flags, except that on the point which is to be blasted, will be hoisted again.

Two o'clock came, and all persons were ordered to leave the battery-house, except Lieut. Hutchinson, who undertook to fire the centre battery; Mr. John Wright, the resident engineer, and Mr. Hodges, the assistant engineer, who respectively took the western and eastern batteries. The general interest now became painfully intense—a dead silence prevailed.

"The coughs and crows that wing the midway air" were heard to chatter with a horrid distinctness. At ten minutes past two Mr. Cubitt ordered the signal-flag at the directors' pavilion to be hoisted, and that was followed by the hoisting of all the rest. The air was still, the sea was calm, the murmuring surges gently laved the cliff's huge foot. Was this fair scene to be the prelude to disaster? A quarter of an hour passed in waking dreams—a year-long minute succeeded, when a shell with a lighted fusee was thrown over the cliff, from which it bounded to the beach, and burst with an astounding report, followed by echoes from the hills, which had the effect of sharp fusilades of musketry. All the flags were then hauled down. Four minutes more passed away; two guns were fired, and all the flags except that on the point to be blasted were again hoisted. The "one minute before firing" was reached: it passed in exquisite courage-screwing tumult. "Now! now!" shouted the eager multitude, and at precisely 26 minutes past two o'clock a dull, muffled, booming sound was heard, accompanied for a moment by a heavy jolting movement of the earth which caused the knees to smile. The mines were fired! In an instant the bottom of the cliff appeared to dissolve, and to form by its melting elements a hurried sea-born stream. The superincumbent mass, to the extent of 500 feet, was then observed to separate from the mainland, and as the dissolution of its base was accomplished, to sink, by gradual subsidence, to the beach. In two minutes its descent and dispersion were accomplished. The huge volleys of ejected chalk, as they swelled the lava-like stream, seemed to roll inwards upon themselves, crushing their integral blocks, and then to return to the surface in smaller and coalescing forms. The mass seemed to ferment—to be splitting, whirling, fleeing, under the influence of an unseen but uncontrollable power. There was no roaring explosion, no bursting out of fire, and, what is very remarkable, not a single wreath of smoke, for a mighty agent had done its work under an amount of pressure which almost matched its energies; the pent-up fires were held in their intensity till all smoke was consumed, and when their "dogs of war" were actually let loose they were even then compelled to "do their spitting gently." A million tons of weight, and a million tons of cohesion held the reins. When the turf at the top of the cliff had been launched to the level of the beach, the stream of debris had extended a distance of 1200 feet, and covered a surface of more than fifteen acres! The moment the headlong course of the chalk had ceased and the fruition of every one's hopes accomplished, a simultaneous cry was raised of "Three cheers for the engineer!" William Cubit was then honoured with as hearty a huzza as ever burst from the lips of a grateful people. An epoch in our history had passed; a precedent had been established whose effects on future time no one could forebode; it had been demonstrated that the most powerful, the most mysterious agency in nature was under computable regulations and the easiest control. The people felt this, and in their generosity called for "one cheer more." These congratulations penetrated the gloom of the battery-house and dissipated the fears of the operators, for we have it on their own authority, "so slight was the noise or the shock, that the impression on their minds was the fire had failed until the cheers of the spectators undeceived them, their situation preventing them from witnessing the result."

S. S.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

BAIL COURT.

LAST DAY OF TERM.

THE BARON DE BODE V. THE QUEEN.

The Attorney-General applied to the court upon the part of the Crown, for a rule calling upon the Baron de Bode to show cause why the present case, which stands for trial at the sittings after the present term, should not stand over to a period to be fixed by the court, upon showing cause against the rule. The case is an issue from the Court of Chancery upon the subject of the Baron de Bode's claim to compensation, the facts of which have been before the public for so many years; and the present motion was founded upon an affidavit of the assistant-solicitor to the Treasury, who deposed that he had been, up to a very recent period, employed at Paris in searching for documents, and that, in consequence of the necessary extent of his inquiries, it would be impossible to be sufficiently prepared upon the part of Her Majesty, if the trial were to come on at the time for which it was at present appointed. It would be necessary for the decision of the case to take into consideration questions of French and German law in reference to the tenures by which the Baron de Bode had holden the estates in respect to which the controversy had arisen. Questions of great importance and difficulty respecting the construction of treaties between this country and France would also arise at the trial, as well as questions connected with the particular municipal law of France, in reference to which it would be necessary to produce upon the trial some eminent members of the bar in that country. The application was granted.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.—WEDNESDAY.

(Before Mr. Commissioner Evans.)

WILLIAMS AND MOTTRAM'S BANKRUPTCY.

This bankruptcy, which has been so often before the public, was finally disposed of on Wednesday. The bankrupt Mottram applied for his certificate, supported by Mr. Wright's counsel. The certificate was opposed by Mr. E. James, on the part of the assignees. The case seemed to excite considerable interest, the court being very much crowded during the proceedings. His honour, on coming to this case, said that it was one in which the person applying for a certificate had, in conjunction with his partner (Williams), embezzled a large quantity of goods immediately before the issuing of the flat. He afterwards presented himself before that court, and on his oath twice denied the fact. He was, however, ultimately compelled, by the admissions of his partner, to acknowledge the truth. That was a material feature in the case about to be discussed.—Mr. E. James then proceeded to detail the facts of the case. There were a few salient points in the case to which he would call the attention of the court. The estate had paid a dividend of 1s. 6d. in the pound. There was no private estate of Mottram, because he had paid his private creditors with the sums received from the joint estate. The bankrupts commenced business in January, 1830, with a capital lodged at Smith, Payne, and Smiths, of £21,000, the most part of which was, however, borrowed money and accommodation bills. From that period they continued in business down to their bankruptcy in 1841. The firm was insolvent in the November which followed the commencement of business.—His honour said it was within his own recollection that such was the fact. Williams made the only reparation he could make in giving up his share of the money taken, but

Mottram retained his part.—The bankrupt (Mottram), evidently labouring under considerable excitement, then proceeded to address the court. He said he had been twenty-five years known and respected in the city, and during that time capital to the amount of £600,000 had passed through his hands without the least impeachment of his integrity. He had unfortunately been inveigled by two men, whose connexion had placed him in his present pitiable condition. He hoped that no distinction would be made between his case and that of Mr. Williams, who had received his certificate. He could assure the court that he had not intentionally wronged any one, and he challenged the world to prove the contrary. Williams had given up £300 out of the £750, but Mr. Williams had only one child to support, while he (Mottram) had thirteen. He could not leave them to starve, feeling, as he did, that, both by the laws of God and his country he was bound as father to provide for them. The bankrupt concluded a long address by repeating his prayer for merciful consideration, and apologising for the excitement he had exhibited.—His honour, after some discussion, proceeded to deliver his judgment. He said he could not look on the case with any leniency, because the bankrupt must have known that, in taking the money of his creditors, he was pursuing a course which could not be recognized by that court. There were besides this many points in the case which went against the bankrupt; among the rest, his having lived in a style completely beyond his means. Under all the circumstances, he could do no other than adjourn the certificate for three years.—The bankrupt, on hearing this judgment delivered, turned to the learned commissioner, and with great vehemence said—I defy you to prove what you have asserted; but you will soon appear before a court where bankrupts in heart will not pass. I am an honest man, and my heart tells me so, and I feel it, and therefore scorn the reproach attempted to be cast upon me. By the termination of the adjournment I shall perhaps appear before another commissioner, when you shall have gone to your last account. I am an injured man, with a wife and thirteen children to support.—The proceedings here terminated.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

The 100th session since the establishment of the court, and the 4th during the present mayoralty, commenced on Monday last before the Lord Mayor, Recorder, Sheriffs, and other civic functionaries. The grand jury having been sworn in, the Recorder proceeded to deliver his charge. He said, upon a perusal of the calendar, and a careful consideration of the facts contained in the depositions which had been transmitted to him in reference to the persons charged therein, it did not occur to him as being necessary that he should address any particular observations to them upon the nature of the offences charged, with one exception. The ordinary charges were founded upon matters of fact, upon which they could come to their own conclusions without any instruction from him. There was, however, one case of no light importance—namely, a charge of murder committed in the public streets of London in the open day; and as it was committed under circumstances which did not, on the face of them, account for any motive in the person charged with that crime, it might be expected that he should address to them a few observations upon the law affecting a charge of murder. He would preface these remarks by saying that in case the defence to be set up should be real or alleged insanity, it would not be their province, in determining the question whether they ought or ought not to return a true bill against the party charged, to enter into the question of the plea of insanity. He prefaced his observations with these remarks, because it was highly necessary to the ends of justice that the accused should be put upon his trial. The case might involve the question, whether, at the time of committing the offence, the prisoner was incapable of distinguishing between right and wrong, by reason of idiocy or lunacy. But the point to which their attention would have to be addressed was, whether the offence charged had been committed, apart and distinct from any consideration as to whether the act was committed by a person under the influence of insanity or not. He was speaking now from the authority of one of the learned judges in a very important case—namely, that of the Queen against the wife of J. Hodges, who was charged with the murder of her own child. The grand jury in that case had come into court and stated that they had thrown out the bill after hearing evidence that the party charged was insane at the time of committing the offence. Mr. Baron Alderson, on hearing this, said, "Then, gentlemen, you have done wrong; you ought not to try that question. If the offence charged amounted to murder, it was your duty to find a bill; otherwise you afford no security to the public by the confinement of insane persons." This, let it be borne in mind, was no hardship to the party accused, because under the provisions of the 39th and 40th of George the Third, if when the party was arraigned, or at the time of trial, it appeared that the person was insane, the court might direct the jury to try the question of his insanity, and if he were found insane, then to order him to be kept in custody during her Majesty's pleasure. By this provision the same protection was thrown over both the individual and the public. The question of insanity they would see, therefore, was not one to be disposed of by the grand jury, but by another tribunal, for which the statute had made express provision. He would now call their attention to the nature of the offence charged as defined by law. Lord Coke defined murder to be "where a person of sound memory, and of the age of discretion, knowingly wound any other person with malice aforethought, so that that person die of his wound within a year and a day after the same. Murder cannot be committed by an idiot, by a lunatic, or by an infant of such an age as to be (legally) incapable of committing such a crime." And with regard to infancy, Lord Hale stated that age to be under seven years. Although it was laid down that insane persons could not be held to be guilty of crime, by reason of their insanity, it must be borne in mind that it must be fully proved that the party charged was at the time of committing the alleged crime incapable of distinguishing between right and wrong. With regard to the mode of proceeding, Sir Michael Forster laid it down, that in every charge of murder the plea of insanity, or infirmity of mind, must be proved by the prisoner—unless such proof arose out of the evidence produced against him. For the law presumed that the fact was founded in malice, until the contrary appeared. There had been some misapprehension as to the meaning of malice aforethought as descriptive of the crime of murder; but according to the highest authority it was now understood in the necessary sense of a principle of malice towards particulars, the fact being attended with such circumstances as ordinarily attend a malicious, wicked, and depraved spirit. Again, if the attempt had been made upon the life of one person, and the act had taken effect upon another, although the malice was directed against the former individual, still it was not less an act of murder; as every destruction of life under such circumstances was murder, although some other individual than the person killed had been aimed at by the prisoner. It was an equally unlawful taking of life without excuse or mitigation; it was equally murder although some other person had been in the eye or in the mind of the party accused. The learned Recorder then shortly detailed the facts of the melancholy assassination of Mr. Drummond, and concluded by telling them that it would be their duty to put the case in a course of investigation by the petit jury. The grand jury then retired.

Henry Summers, 32, clerk, was indicted for wilful and corrupt perjury. Mr. Clarkson prosecuted, and Messrs. Prendergast and Payne appeared for the defendant.

The case occupied the court for several hours. The perjury imputed to the prisoner was that he had stated certain circumstances in an affidavit in a cause pending in the Court of Queen's Bench, whereby an execution issued against a person named Wittenbury, and he was compelled to pay the sheriff's officer £12, in order to get released. It was satisfactorily proved that the statements in the defendant's affidavit were false in every respect, and the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty."—Judgment was respite.

TUESDAY.—CHARGE OF PERJURY.—John Pinch surrendered in court to take his trial on a charge of wilful and corrupt perjury.—The charge arose out of proceedings in a trial which took place in the Court of Queen's Bench, during sittings at Nisi Prius, at Guildhall, in which Mr. Riches, a builder, sought to recover a sum of money from Mr. Twentyman, for specimens and estimates of four houses about to be erected. For the defence, Mr. Twentyman produced witnesses, amongst whom were the defendant, John Pinch, his brother William Pinch, and another person named Hill, whose evidence was to the effect that a special clause was originally inserted in the agreement for the specifications by which Mr. Riches was precluded from charging for them unless they were accepted by Mr. Twentyman, and the bargain for the buildings closed between the parties, and that Mr. Riches had been expressly informed that he would have to compete with the estimates of other builders. The evidence on the action was very contradictory, and the jury finally found for the defendant. Mr. Riches then indicted both the Pinches and Hill for perjury, by alleging that no bargain whatever had been made respecting the charge for the specifications and estimates; that Mr. Twentyman and the defendant, John Pinch, had called upon him and asked him to furnish the specifications and estimates, and that not a word had been said about the charges. He alleged that the clause which prohibited the charge was not originally in the agreement, and must have been surreptitiously introduced. He acknowledged that he had great difficulty in reading writing, and was unable to decipher a clause in the agreement, which was put into his hands by Mr. Clarkson. The prosecutor's son and his clerk partially corroborated his evidence, but they were not very clear as to the dates.—Mr. Clarkson addressed the jury for the defence, and said that he would make no attempt to get rid of the indictment on technical objections, which he was prepared to show he could do if he pleased; but the character of the gentleman he defended, who was an architect residing at Bath, was so perfectly unimpeachable, that he preferred going into the entire transaction, and proving that the evidence given by the defendants was true in every respect. Not one of the witnesses for the prosecution had been able to corroborate another as to the date of any of the alleged conversations.—Several witnesses were called and examined, when the Recorder interrupted the proceedings, and, addressing Mr. Humfrey, asked if, under the circumstances of contradiction and confusion between the evidence of the witnesses on both sides, and the utter want of perspicuity as to the dates, it would be well to allow the case to proceed no further. Not only did the witnesses for the prosecution differ from those for the defence, but the witnesses, both for prosecution and defence, differed materially among themselves. Mr. Humfrey, however, persisted, and after a great deal of conversation, the court adjourned at six o'clock for an hour. Shortly after seven o'clock the case was resumed, and several highly respectable witnesses bore testimony to the integrity, respectability, and hitherto unimpeached character of the defendant, who, it appeared, had carried on the business of an architect and surveyor for many years in Bath.—The Recorder summed up the evidence at considerable length, and the jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.—The trial terminated at ten o'clock, having occupied twelve hours.

After a continuous tour of home duty, the long duration of which is unprecedented in the military annals of this country, the 7th Dragoon Guards have at length been placed under orders for foreign service. They are to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope so soon as the requisite arrangements for their conveyance thither can be completed. It has been determined to send the 1st battalion of the 43rd Regiment to the same station.

THURSDAY.
POSTPONEMENT OF THE TRIAL OF THE ASSASSIN OF THE LATE MR. DRUMMOND.

Lord Abinger and Mr. Justice Maule took their seats on the bench shortly after ten o'clock, upon which the prisoner, Daniel McNaughten, was brought in and placed at the bar, for the purpose of being arraigned. He maintained his self-possession as heretofore, but looked rather paler than at his examination at Bow-street on Saturday.—Mr. Street, the Deputy Clerk of the Arraigns, then proceeded to read the indictment, which contained five counts, varying the charge of feloniously shooting at and killing the deceased, Mr. Edward Drummond.—On being called upon to say whether he was Guilty or Not Guilty, the prisoner (in a faltering and low tone of voice) replied, "I am guilty of firing a pistol, but not with the intent to do any harm. Despair drove me to do it."—Lord Abinger: Then you plead not guilty to the offence charged, namely—that of feloniously shooting at and killing the deceased, Edward Drummond!—Prisoner: Yes, I do. I had no intention of killing him.—Lord Abinger (to Mr. Street): Very well. Let the plea be recorded.—Mr. Clarkson then rose and said, he had to make an application, that the trial of the prisoner might be postponed until next session. The grounds upon which he made this application were—first, that the prisoner had not been able to obtain the assistance of counsel, in consequence of the police having in their hands a large sum of money which belonged to him; and, secondly, that it would be necessary for his defence to procure the attendance of witnesses from Glasgow and from France.—The Attorney-General said it was not his intention to oppose the application which had been made by his learned friend for the postponement of the trial, for which reasonable grounds had been shown. But with regard to the money belonging to the prisoner, in the hands of the police, that would not at present be given up. Mr. Maule, the solicitor to the Treasury, would be answerable for any expenses necessary for the prisoner's defence.

NEW COURT.

EMBEZZLEMENT.—George Shepherd stood indicted for embezzling, secreting, and stealing divers sums of money received by him for and on account of Mr. Sherman, the proprietor of the Bull and Mouth Inn, one of his employers. The prisoner pleaded guilty. His lordship said that the prisoner had been guilty of a serious breach of trust, and had it not been for his previous excellent character and his manifest contrition, he must inevitably have been transported. In the hope that he would return into the world and redeem his character, the court would pass a comparatively lenient sentence, which was that he be kept to hard labour for one year.

John Heading, aged 33, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with feloniously forging and uttering receipts and orders for goods. Sentence—Transportation for seven years.

John Hockley, alias Sullivan, aged 50, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with having stolen four spoons, one label, and one watch, value £6, the property of Charles Hastings Doyle, in his dwelling-house; and Mary Buckley, aged 47, also pleaded guilty to an indictment charging her with stealing six pictures, value £10, the property of Charles Hastings Doyle, her master, in his dwelling-house. It appeared that Mr. Doyle had missed above £60 worth of property. Sentence—Seven years' transportation.

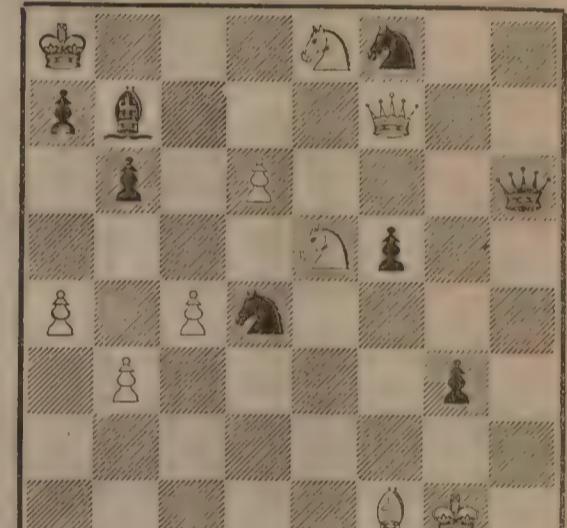
CHESS.

Solution to problem No. 13.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Q to K 7th ch	K takes Q
Kt to K Kt 6th ch.	K takes Q sq
Kt to K B 7th ch	K to Q B sq
Kt to K 7th checkmate.	

PROBLEM, No. 14.
White to move, and mate in seven moves.

BLACK.



WHITE.

The solution in our next.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE BIRTH-DAY!

A LEGEND.
(After the manner of the German.)

A feast is spread—but no guest is there,
'Tis a homely circle all—
On the natal day of a maiden fair,
The pride of a simple hall!
She's last to come to the festive board,
Her form and face are wan—
And her tearful eyes, with memories stor'd,
Say with a look—"he's gone!"
She meets the scowl of her father's brow,
The wistful gaze of her mother's—
Sisters in silence 'round her bow,
Far o'er the wave are her brothers!
She sits in a listless sorrow there
Till a thoughtless menial's hand
Beside her places an empty chair—
"Tis mov'd by a stern command!
"What means the slave?" saith the angry sire,
"Is not the table fill'd?
By all that our home and love desire?"
No answer!—His words have chill'd
And a deadly silence follows!—At last
The maid from her trance awakes:
"Tis vain to hope that my love is past
It never, never forsakes,
But clings to my heart in dream or thought,
As fitful I sleep or think,—
Twas given to him who first had sought,
And with him will to the brink
Of life's last hour go truly on,
Sunder'd or join'd as Heav'n
May deem us fit to be two or one—
Such truth will be God-forgiv'n!
"But not by me," says the sire in wrath,
"The months of my search are past—
Weary and far Revenge's path,
But fate was lucky at last

FACTS AND SCRAPS.

A Philadelphia paper mentions the case of a man who has been terribly trounced by his wife, because he took his sartout and boots out of her bustle, just as she wanted to put it on. Next time he'll mind his own business.

A little timid attorney presenting a copy of a writ to a bluff auctioneer, apologised for his unfriendly visit, as he was merely performing an unpleasant duty of his profession. "Certainly," replied the knight of the hammer, "you must attend to the duties of your profession, and so must I do mine," and immediately knocked him down.

THE TIEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD.—Mrs. Baxter's house contained three or four sitting-rooms, yet the kitchen, to the great annoyance of her hard-working maid, was the place where she chose to take her meals. Her dining-room was large and well-furnished; but on entering it you would involuntarily exclaim, "Can this be an inhabited house?" for not one sign of habitation was there. Curtains there were on the windows, certainly, but not put there to be drawn; for the coldest day in the depths of a Russian winter could never tempt Mrs. Baxter to see them so treated. There was a comfortable carpet, too; but, rash visitor, beware! touch not its sacred hem, for the last idea ever entertained by Mrs. Baxter, when she laid it down, was the idea of any one walking over it. Do you not see that India mat laid down and across the room, which, and which only is to be so profaned? There was a fine easy chair, made in the last style of luxury and elegance, which she exultingly told every one cost fourteen guineas; but I wish you could see the black look she would have bestowed upon any one (spouse not excepted) who had dared to remove it from the corner she had destined to be its abiding place. In short, Mrs. Baxter's goods, like the crown jewels were to be looked at with awe and admiration, but not to be touched; and thus her poor victim of a husband, more miserable than a traveller in an Arabian desert, who, if he does not see the element he languishes for, at least is not tantalized, pines in the midst of plenty for the common comforts of life, knowing no rest in his own well-furnished house, but in that blest oblivion—sleep. Come home hungry or thirsty there is nothing in the larder, Mrs. Baxter being too clean to cook, or allow cooking; and some excuse would always be found against drawing the strong ale, or opening a bottle of wine. Was he weary, not for worlds durst he seek repose in the inviting arm-chair, or stretch his limbs on the sofa, for he would sully this, and tumble that, and disarrange everything, and a lecture from Mrs. Baxter about her household gods (for such they were to her) was a thing in every way to be dreaded.—*Ainsworth's Magazine*.

SITE OF ST. PAUL'S, LONDON.—It is more than probable that in the place where St. Paul's Church now stands there was a wood or grove at first, in regard there was a fane or temple to Diana; for historians observe, that whereas Venus, Mars, and Vulcan, were used to have their temples in the suburbs, Jupiter and Apollo within the city, the goddess Diana was used to have her temples set up in the woods, which might make the Britons denominate that place *Llundian*, which is as much as Diana's grove or town. As this derivation carrieth a great semblance of truth with it, so the third, viz., *Llhandian* carrieth as much, if not a greater verisimilitude, and weighs most with me. The Britains to this day call a church or temple a *Llhan*, whereof there be a great number in Wales to this day, as *Llhawgorse*, *Llhansawel*, *Llhandoilo*, &c., which signifieth the churches of such places. And whereas, by the current and consentient opinion of all antiquaries, there was a Pagan temple or fane, erected to Diana, in that place where now St. Paul's stands, there being yet there a place called *Camera Dianæ*, where ox heads and bones are daily found, which used to be offered her as victims and sacrifices, I say, it is more than probable that the Britains were induced thereby to call the place *Llhundian*, which is the temple of Diana, and so in tract of time the word was contracted, and came to be called London. Certain old houses adjoining are, in the ancient records of the church, called Diana's chamber; and, in the churchyard, while Edward the First reigned, an incredible number of ox heads were found, as we find in our annals, which the common sort at that time wondered at, as the sacrifices of the Gentiles; and the learned know that Taurapolis were celebrated in honour of Diana.—*Howell's Londinopolis*.

THE NIGHTINGALE'S NOTE.—In daylight, when all the other birds are in concert, the nightingale only strikes you as the most active, emulous, and successful of the whole band. At night, especially if it is a calm one, with light enough to give you a wide indistinct view, the solitary music of this bird takes quite another character, from all the associations of the scene, from the langour one feels at the close of the day, and from the stillness of spirits and elevation of mind which come upon one walking out at that time. But it is not always so; different circumstances will vary in every possible way the effect. Will the nightingale's song sound alike to the man who is going

on an adventure to meet his mistress, supposing he heeds it at all, and when he loiters along on his return? The last time I heard the nightingale, it was an experiment of another sort; it was after a thunder-storm, in a wild night, while there was silent lightning opening every few minutes, first on one side of the heavens, then on the other; the careless little fellow was piping away in the midst of all this terror. There was no melancholy in his note to me, but a sort of sublimity; yet it was the same song which I had heard in the morning, and which then seemed nothing but bustle.—*Memoirs and Correspondence of Francis Horner*.

BARGAINING.—Above all things to be guarded against in making bargains, is that of taking advantage of the poor. It is a cruel system carried on by the world, and one against which woman, with her boasted kindness of heart, ought especially to set her face—that of first ascertaining the position, or degree of necessity of the party we deal with, and then offering a price accordingly. Yet, how often do we hear the expression, "I get it done so well, and so cheaply; for, poor things, they are in such distress, they are glad to do it at any price!" And a pitiful sight it is to see the plain work, and fine work too, that is done upon such terms. A pitiful thing it is to think of the number of hours which must have been spent, perhaps in the endurance of hunger and cold, before the scanty pittance was earned; and to compare this with the golden sums so willingly expended at some fashionable milliner's, where, because the lady of the house is not in want, the kind-hearted purchaser would be sorry to insult her feelings by offering less.—*Mrs. Ellis's Wives of England*.

EDUCATION.—Education stands on the basis of everlasting duty—is a prime necessity of man. To impart the gift of thinking to those who cannot think, and yet who could in that case think: this, one would imagine, was the first function a government had to set about discharging. Were it not a cruel thing to see, in any province of an empire, each strong man with his arm lamed? How much crueler to find the strong soul, with its eyes still sealed, its eyes extinct so that it sees not! Light has come into the world, but to this poor peasant it has come in vain. The four-and-twenty letters of the

alphabet are still Runic enigmas to him; and that great spiritual kingdom, the toil-won conquest of his own brothers, all that his brothers have conquered, is a thing non-extant for him—an invisible empire; he knows it not. Heavier wrong is not done under the sun. It lasts from year to year, from century to century; the blindest sire slaves himself out, and leaves a blinded son; and men, made in the image of God, continue as two-legged beasts of labour; and in the largest empire of the world, it is a debate whether a small fraction of the revenue of one day (£30,000 is but that) shall, after thirteen centuries, be laid out on it, or not laid out on it. Have we governors, have we teachers; have we had a church these thirteen hundred years? What is an overseer of souls, an archoverseer, archiepiscopus? Is he something? If so, let him lay his hand on his heart, and say what thing.—*Thomas Carlyle*.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.—Goods are sold at their posts 50 per cent lower than at the American posts. White trappers are paid a higher price for their furs than is paid the Indians; are charged less for the goods which they receive in exchange; and are treated in every respect by this shrewd company with such uniform justice, that the American trappers even are fast leaving the service of their countrymen, for the larger profits and better treatment of British employment. There is also a company of men connected with this fort under the command of an American mountaineer, who, following the various tribes in their migratory expeditions in the adjacent American and Mexican domain, collect whatever fur may chance to be among them. By these means, and various other subsidiary to them, the gentlemen in charge of this trading establishment collected in the summer of 1839, more than thirty packs of the best beaver of the mountains.—*Farnham's Travels in the Rocky Mountains and Oregon Territories*.

CAREFUL MANAGEMENT.—This shrewd company never allow their territory to be over-trapped. If the annual return from any well-trapped district be less in any year than formerly, they order a less number still to be taken, until the beaver and fur-bearing animals have time to increase. The income of the company is thus rendered uniform, and their business perpetual.—*Ibid.*

A WORKER IN IRON AND LANGUAGES.—In the summer of 1838, Governor Everett of Massachusetts, in an address to an association of mechanics in Boston, took occasion to mention, that a blacksmith of that state had, by his unaided industry, made himself acquainted with *fifty languages*. In July of the following year, I was passing through Worcester, the place of his present residence, and gratified my curiosity by calling to see him. Like any other son of Vulcan, Mr. Burritt was at his anvil. I introduced myself to him, observing that I had read with great pleasure, and with unfeigned astonishment, an account of him by the governor of his state, which had induced me to take the liberty of paying him a visit. He very modestly replied, that the governor had done him more than justice. It was true, he said, that he could read about fifty languages, but he had not studied them critically. Yankee curiosity had induced him to look at the Latin grammar; he became interested in it, persevered, and finally acquired a thorough knowledge of that language. He then studied the Greek with equal care. A perfect acquaintance with these languages had enabled him to read with facility the Italian, the French, the Spanish, and Portuguese. The Russian, to which he was then devoting his "odd moments," he said, was the most difficult of any he had undertaken. I expressed my surprise at his youthful appearance. He informed me he was but *twenty-seven* years of age,—to which statement I gave ready credence,—that he had been constantly engaged at his trade from his boyhood to that hour, and that his education previous to his apprenticeship was very slender.—*T. H. Nelson*.

THE PRINCE AND THE COOK.—The Prince shone as a star in the gastronomic firmament; but what greater eulogium can be paid him than the one pronounced upon him by his own cook, who, in speaking of him, and discussing his different merits, observed that it was a pleasure to serve him, for, said he "Monsieur le Prince est essentiellement cuisinier." Now this same artist had been cook to two empresses, and to many princes, which adds weight to the compliment paid the Prince upon his culinary talents. He paid dear for the compliment, it is true, in more ways than one; nor was he blind to the system of depredation which these artists practised upon him.—The Prince, once shut up with him in his carriage, and proceeding gloomily along the road which leads to Smolensko (soon after the termination of the campaign which reduced the city to ashes), wishing no doubt to change his train of ideas, burst like a torrent upon his unsuspecting artist with the emphatic demand, "Why do you rob me so?" The poor astounded cook, who was at the very moment probably devising some plan of peculation, to make up for the time lost in a long, and for him unprofitable, journey of some weeks' duration, replied in an agitated tone, "Sir, Sir, I don't rob you, I only—only—only make the usual profits of my"—

"Stop," said the Prince, "I am not angry with you: I know that you rob me; but I wish to make an arrangement with you. Why do you do it? I give you a handsome salary, you have many perquisites, and what need have you of more? Now be candid, and speak the truth boldly: you know that I cannot do without you," * * * "Why, Sir, I admit that yours is an excellent situation; but you know, Sir, that it is not equal to my expenses. I like society—to treat my friends handsomely. I am addicted to play; *enfin j'ai une petite maîtresse*; and you must be aware, Prince, that all these things considered, your wages are not sufficient." "Good," said the Prince, "this is precisely the point to which I hoped to bring you. Tell me how much this costs you over and above what I give you, and I will make up the difference; only do not rob me." The cook laid his hand upon his heart for a minute, and looking with an affectionate, and even grateful expression towards his master, replied in a suppressed sigh, "Non, Monseigneur, je préfère de vous voler." Having said this, he burst into tears, and hid his face in a cotton handkerchief.—*Life of a Travelling Physician*.

COURT OF GEORGE II.—Mr. Jesse says, that "the Court of George II. was neither more brilliant nor more lively than that of his predecessors." This can hardly be possible, considering that it had more women, and that there was still a remnant of the maids of honour that flourished in his Court, when he was Prince of Wales. And who has not read of the Bellendens and Lepells, of the Meadowses and the Divesses, the witty Miss Pitt, and Sophy Howe, who thought she could not be too giddy and too kind, till a broken heart undeceived her? Do they not flourish for ever in the verses of Pope and Gay, and the witty recitals of Horace Walpole? Now Mary Bellenden still visited the Court as Mrs. Campbell; Mary Lepell was surely there, too, as Lady Hervey; Mrs. Howard remained there till she was a widow; and thither came the Chesterfields, and Schultzes, and Earles; and Young, (to look after a mitre, the want of which gives him terrible "Night Thoughts.") It must be owned however, that there is a falling off. The sprightliest thing we hear of is a frolic of the maids of honour at night-time, in Kensington-gardens, rattling people's windows and catching colds. The King hunts as ardently as he used to

do when he was Prince, taking his whole household with him, maids and all, and frightening Lady Hervey for the bones of her friend Howard. She had known what it was. Here is a picture of those days from Pope, answering to both periods:—"I met the Prince with all his ladies on horseback coming from hunting. Miss Bellenden and Miss Lepell took me into their protection, contrary to the laws against harbouring papists, and gave me a dinner with something I liked better, an opportunity of conversation with Mrs. Howard. We all agreed that the life of a maid of honour was of all things the most miserable; and wished that every woman who envied it had a specimen of it. To eat Westphalia ham in a morning; ride over hedges and ditches on borrowed hacks; come home in the heat of the day with a fever, and (what is worse a hundred times) with a red mark on the forehead from an uneasy hat; all this may qualify them to make excellent wives for fox-hunters, and bear abundance of ruddy-complexioned children. As soon as they can wipe off the sweat of the day, they must simper an hour and catch cold in the Princess's apartment; from thence (as Shakspere has it) to dinner, with what appetite they may; and after that, till midnight, work, walk, or think, which they please. I can easily believe, no lone house in Wales, with a mountain and rookery, is more contemplative than this court; and as a proof of it, I need only tell you, Miss Lepell walked with me three or four hours by moonlight, and we met no creature of any quality but the King who gave audience to the vice-chamberlain, all alone, under the garden-wall."—*Edinburgh Review*.

The Persians give names to every day in the month, just as we give them to days of the week.

A cylinder of water may be converted into ice by placing it in 5 lbs. of sulphate of soda, and 4 lbs. of sulphuric acid, at 36 degrees, well mixed. The ice is extracted for use by putting the cylinder in hot water.

CAMPHOR CAKE FOR CHAPPED HANDS.—White soap, 1 lb.; spermaceti, 1 oz.; melt and add powdered camphor, 1 oz.; mix.—*Annals of Chemistry*.

The three great things that govern mankind are reason, passion, and superstition. The first governs a few; the two last share the bulk of man kind, and possess them in turns; but superstition is most powerful, and produces the greatest mischiefs.—*Locke*.

AMUSEMENT.—Amusement keeps men cheerful and contented—it enlivens a spirit of urbanity—it reconciles the poor to the pleasures of their superiors, which are of the same sort, though in another sphere; it removes the sense of hardship—it brings men together in those genial meetings when the heart opens and care is forgotten. Deprived of more gentle relaxations, men are driven to the alehouse—they talk over the actions of their superiors.—*Sir E. L. Bulwer*.

DONE FOR.—A wag, a few years since, procured some eye-wash of quack oculist in this city, to be applied to a glass eye which he wore. The oculist not being very sharp sighted, discovered there was some defect in the eye, but thought it so trifling that he warranted a cure or no pay. The wag took the wash and departed. In a week or so after, he returned with the empty phial, and apparently in great distress.—"Oh, doctor doctor!" said he, "your stuff has wholly destroyed my eye!" at the same time opening the lids of the empty socket with his finger, to the horror of the gasping oculist. "Is it possible! can it be possible!" exclaimed the eye tinker. "I never knew my medicine to operate so before. Well, my dear sir, I can do nothing less than return your money." "But you must do more, sir. What is five dollars to me compared with the loss of an eye?" replied the wag. "If you will give me two hundred dollars, I will sign a pledge never to expose you, but if you do not, I will prosecute you forthwith, and you are a ruined man."—The quack forked over a check for the amount, and the covey cut stick perhaps for Texas.—*New York Sunday Mercury*.

A HARMLESS SPECIFIC.—An old physician is now living in Paris, who unlucky in practice, set about establishing a patent medicine. Restrained somewhat, if not by a sense of decency, by one of morality, he determined on using a remedy, which, if it did no good, should at least do no harm—and therefore fixed on "distilled water," which under a grand name, was duly puffed; and became a medicine of very general requisition for an infinite variety of maladies. The certificates that poured in upon the surprised inventor were beyond number, and spoke of cures the most marvellous, performed in the most marvellously short time. But the greatest wonder of all was, the revolution produced in the physician's own opinion; for after making an ample fortune by the medicine, he continues to sell it (after the need led to its introduction is gone) in a conscientious belief that it is in truth a sovereign remedy, the salts and other foreign principles in the water in common usage being now thoroughly believed by him to be the source of two-thirds of chronic maladies. M. Tronseau, who relates this anecdote, deduces from it a lesson of greater reliance on the curative powers of nature, especially when untampered with insinuating, with the satirist, that our business in general is but to amuse the patient, while we allow nature to cure him.—*Medical Times*.

SOUTHEY.—The parish church is situated at least a mile from the centre of Keswick, and the way to it passes within a very short distance of Southery's house: Greta Hall stands upon an eminence on the left-hand returning from the church. I proposed that we should turn up to it which we did, through a dingy green gate that stands close to the bridge that crosses the river Greta, the stream flowing between the town and the church. We sadly and silently, I believe, approached the house that now holds all that once was Southery; it is much overshadowed by trees, and its appearance tells too plainly the sorrowful truth that all is not well within. We took off our hats as we stood in view of the door, as a tribute of respect due to genius well directed, and to affliction induced by labour of intellect. That genius, learning, taste, information, and talent, which aforesome received attention through Europe, is no more a reality: Southery is imbecile. That house, beneath whose roof all the renowned, whether his countrymen or followers, have felt it a high honour to be received, now covers its once-distinguished master, an *idiot and a driveller*. Oh! sad condition of human intellect—what a lesson of humility does it teach us! It were hardly fair to pass him by without a word or two touching the previous history of the living-dead laureate. Southery was Bristol-born, the son of a linen-draper, who sent him to Westminster School, with this injunction deeply impressed,—"Tie up the stocking tight, and be punctual." From Westminster he went, a student, to Balliol, Oxford, with the intention of studying for the church, but, imbibing Unitarian principles, and fired with the then recent events of the French Revolution, he became a red-hot republican. Quitting Oxford, he became a member of Gray's Inn, and soon afterwards published his "Wat Tyler," in which were advocated republican principles which he subsequently regretted and repudiated. While yet unsettled, he made a few months' tour in Spain and Portugal, during which time he acquired a knowledge of the languages of both these countries. In the first year after the union of Ireland to England, he went thither as secretary to Mr. Corry, the Chancellor of the Exchequer of Ireland, and for a brief service in this appointment he was fortunate enough to obtain a pension of two hundred a-year. On his retirement from office, he took up his residence at Greta Hall, near Keswick, where he has ever since resided, devoting himself to literary pursuits, and acquiring a celebrity that extends through Europe and America. I conceive that the eccentricity of his poetry has damaged his reputation as a poet; and the universality of his knowledge as a linguist, together with the variety of the subjects of his authorship, have prevented him from achieving any one great work which, placed in his niche in the Temple of Fame, might hand down his name to posterity. Lord Byron said of him that his appearance was epic, and that he had a *PARTY BUT NO PUBLIC*.—*The Sportsman*.



THE FASHIONS.

Paris, Rue Chaussée d'Antin, 29th January, 1843.

Mon cher Monsieur.—One of the greatest changes which the present year has produced is the revival of the fashion of necklaces, the wearing of which is now becoming extremely general. We have lately remarked many of these very beautiful articles on the persons of our most exalted fashionables; which, whether regarded in the light of richness or elegance, deserved mention, more especially those composed of emeralds and fine pearls. With these are worn elastic bracelets, which embrace the arm at any part, and which have the further convenience of never becoming unfastened or being lost by reason of the failure of snaps, as they adapt themselves to the size of the arm on whatever point they may be placed. At the Ambassador of Austria's ball, which took place on Monday last, we remarked some very beautiful dresses, and, amongst others, one which, for its extreme beauty, deserves especial mention. It was a robe with triple and quadruple bouillants (a description of putting) of tulle, interspersed with narrow ribbons issuing from rosettes; the corsages are pointed, descending upon the hips, with very short draperies, and sleeves trimmed with plissés (plaits) of tulle; the whole forming a remarkably pretty toilette. The lightness and the freshness of these trimmings, when applied to heavy stuffs, imparts to them some portion of their own airy appearance. There was another robe at the same party, if possible, still prettier than the above. It was a simple robe of tulle, with two rosettes upon the front of the skirt, and fixed upon it by bouquets of flowers. But the great triumph of the evening was a robe of rose-coloured taffety covering a petticoat of mohair of the same colour, open in front, attached to the point of the corsage, and draped at the sides; the petticoat was covered with two large volants (a sort of deep flounce) of point lace, which, in fact, gave it the appearance of a robe of lace. The corsage, which was brought to a point, descended upon the hips; the upper part of it was surmounted by a turn-back collar of two rows of lace; the one lying flat upon the border of the robe, and the other gathered around it. In many of the toilettes at the Opera and the Italians I have remarked that beads are much worn in head-dresses. Coiffures, forming a sort of light sprinkling of pearls, or of black or blue stones, and with necklaces of large pearls, are very fashionable. The berthes, also, are trimmed with beads, fringes, and ribbons, &c.; and the gloves, worn with bracelets richly ornamented, have also a grand effect. Some of our ultra-fashionables have lately patronized what are called Algerian slippers, which are certainly not a little remarkable for their rich, as well as their very uncommon appearance. They are made of stuffs, embroidered with gold and pearls, and are fastened with a gold lace terminated with a tassel. Sometimes they have round the slipper a slight turning back of the lining of a similar stuff, trimmed with gold or silk fringe. Adieu, mon ami.

HENRIETTE DE B.,

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. E. DRUMMOND.

The mortal remains of the above lamented gentleman were on Tuesday last consigned to their last resting-place, in the churchyard of Charlton, near Woolwich, Kent.

In accordance with the expressed desire of the deceased's relatives, the funeral was conducted in the most private manner, and the mourners consisted solely of members of the Drummond family.

The mournful cavalcade left Grosvenor-street at the early hour of eight o'clock on its way to Charlton. The procession moved onwards in the following order:—

Mutes.

Page, bearing the plume of feathers.

The hearse,

Drawn by four horses, containing the body of the deceased, and supported by eight hearse pages as bearers.

Mourning coach,

Drawn by four horses, containing the following members of the deceased's family:—

Col Berkeley Drummond, Rev. Arthur Drummond,
Mr. Charles Drummond, Mr. C. Drummond, jun.

The private carriage of the deceased.

The route taken was over Vauxhall-bridge, by Kennington and Camberwell to New Cross, thence to Deptford, and over Blackheath to Charlton, at which place the procession arrived about ten minutes past eleven. On reaching the churchyard, the body of the deceased gentleman was met by the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Boscowen, vicar of Wotton, near Dorking, Surrey, who commenced reading the service for the burial of the dead. The church was fully attended by the most respectable inhabitants of the neighbourhood, all of whom appeared to be much affected by the scene. The coffin having been placed in the centre aisle, the mourners took their seats, and the ceremony proceeded. At the conclusion of the service, the mournful cavalcade moved towards the vault prepared for the reception of the body at the eastern extremity of the churchyard. The scene at this moment was of the most painful character. The melancholy circumstances under which the deceased met his death had an evident effect on those assembled, and the greatest sympathy was manifested by all present. The three brothers of the deceased were very much affected, and, when the coffin was lowered into the vault, the feelings of Colonel Drummond were completely overcome. The prayers being ended, the brothers took their last look on the coffin containing the remains of their deceased relative, and soon after left the spot under feelings of the deepest emotion.

The coffin was covered with black furniture, and surmounted by a brass plate bearing the following inscription:—

"Edward Drummond, Esq.
Died January 25, 1843.
Aetatis sua, 50."

The great respect entertained for the deceased induced a large number of his friends to request permission to pay the last tribute to his remains by attending the funeral, which was prevented solely on account of the numerous applications made. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Cambridge, and Duchess of Gloucester, and Princess Sophia, and the Duke of Wellington, and Sir Robert and Lady Peel, were among the many distinguished individuals who were desirous to testify their esteem on this melancholy occasion; but, in accordance with the wishes of the members of the deceased gentleman's family, their attendance was gratefully declined.

The vault in which the deceased is interred is a very ancient one, having been erected more than 200 years since. It had fallen into decay, and was advertised some time since. No person coming forward to own it, the vicar, Mr. Drummond, has appropriated it to his own use, and the deceased is the first member of his family whose body has been deposited therein.

The whole of the arrangements of the funeral were under the direction of Mr. Newson, of Grosvenor-mews, New Bond-street, and reflect much credit upon that gentleman.

It is a most curious coincidence that here lie the remains of Spencer Percival, who was shot by Bellingham. Thus two parties connected with the government, and slain by assassins, lie together in Charlton Church.



CHARLTON CHURCH.

Charlton Church is a picturesque object; its square tower being surrounded by trees—their foliage relieving the weather-stained turrets of the old building. To the geologist Charlton is well known and oft frequented. Its extensive pits afford, in addition to a knowledge of the surrounding strata, a variety of fossils most prized by those who best know them. Charlton Wood is also prized by botanists, as affording several rare plants. The scenery around is varied and romantic.

There, with pendent boughs,
The thick shrubs cling, and straggling oaks protrude
Their pollard trunks, with ivy close enwreath'd;
White slender ashlings o'er the stony brow
Bend their grey stems, and quiver in the breeze.

Near the church is a building erected in princely style by Sir Adam Newton, and with which is connected a curious story. It is said that it contained a chimney-piece so exquisitely polished that Lord Doune saw reflected in it a robbery committed at Shooter's Hill, and that he was able, in consequence, to despatch his servants so promptly as to secure the delinquent.



PORTRAIT OF DANIEL MCNAUGHTEN.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Since our report on this day se'nnight, the receipts of English wheat up to our markets, coastwise and by land carriage and sample, have been tolerably good, but not to say extensive; while the general quality of the samples, arising from the prevailing humid atmosphere, has proved rather inferior. On each market day the demand for all descriptions has proved very inactive, and the quotations have suffered an abatement of 1s per quarter. In foreign wheat so little has been done that the rates have been nominally unaltered. Good sound barley has supported its value, but other sorts have been purchased on easier terms. Malt has mostly gone off as it has come to hand, yet the currencies have been with difficulty supported. Oats, beans, peas, and flour have been dull, but without any further abatement in price.

Arrivals.—English: Wheat, 3770; barley, 2910; oats, 7800; and malt, 3730 quarters; four, 1750 sacks. Irish: oats, 6140 quarters.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 42s. to 53s.; ditto white, 54s. to 58s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 49s. to 67s.; ditto, 51s to 65s.; rye, 34s. to 38s.; grinding barley, 22s to 28s.; malting ditto, 28s to 31s.; Chevalier, 32s. to 34s.; Suffolk and Norfolk malt, 66s. to 62s.; brown ditto, 60s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 56s. to 62s.; Chevalier, 63s.; Yorkshire and Lincoln-

shire feed oats, 23s to 24s.; potato ditto, 25s to 26s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 17s to 18s.; ditto, white, 19s to 20s.; tick beans, new, 31s to 36s.; ditto, old, 34s to 38s.; gray peas, 36s to 38s.; maple, 33s to 34s.; white, 30s to 35s.; boilers, 32s to 37s per quarter. Town-made flour, 41s to 45s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 45s to 48s.; hempseed, 35s to 46s per quarter; coriander, 10s to 18s per cwt.; brown mustard seed, 10s to 11s.; white ditto, 10s to 10s 6d; tares, 5s to 5s 9d per bushel; English rapeseed, new, £20 to £23 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £10 to £10 10s.; ditto foreign, 27 to 27 10 per 1000; rapeseed cakes £5 to £6 per ton.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 49s 3d; barley, 27s 8d; oats, 17s 0d; rye, 30s 4d; beans, 27s 10d; peas, 30s 4d.

Imperial Averages of Six weeks which govern Duty.—Wheat, 47s 11d; barley, 26s 9d; oats, 17s 1d; rye, 23s 4d; beans, 28s 0d; peas, 30s 3d per quarter.

Duty on Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 20s 0d; barley, 10s 0d; oats, 8s 0d; rye, 11s 6d; beans, 11s 6d; peas, 10s 6d.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread are from 7d to 7d; of house-old ditto, 6d to 6d for the 4lb loaf.

Treasury.—We have had but few parcels offering privately since our last. The demand continues tolerably firm, and good common Congou cannot be had under 1s 3d to 1s 4d per cwt. Our public sales have been yet declared.

Sugar.—This market has again ruled inactive. The finest descriptions of sugar, however, have realised full prices; but the middling and inferior kinds have fallen in per cwt.

Coffee.—Although the value of this article remains very low, dealers are operating with much caution; hence a very small amount of business has been done this week.

Cocoa.—West India is in fair demand, at full rates, with a full average supply on cwt.

Pepper.—160 pockets white have produced at auction 3d for very ordinary, and 6d for fair quality.

Jute.—200 hales have gone off publicly, at £16 2s 6d per ton.

Saltpepper.—This article is rather declining. 827 bags Calcutta have sold at 26s to 26s 6d per 11lbs refraction; 26s to 26s 6d for 73 ditto; and 27s for 43lbs refraction.

Cochinchina.—We have very little inquiry for cochinchina. 110 bags Mexican have changed hands at 4s to 4s 9d for good fair blacks; and 3s 8d to 3s 11d per lb. for good fair and good silvers—being a decline of 2d.

Spelter.—Sales are reported on the spot at £23 per ton.

Tallow.—The market is quiet, with little doing. The latest quotation is, 4s 3d on the spot, 4s 6d to 4s 9d for forward delivery.

Potatoes.—On account of the prevailing fine weather, the demand for potatoes still rules heavy, and the present rates are from 3d to 6s per ton.

Hops.—The best yearlings, both in pockets and bags, are selling at full prices; but otherwise the demand is in a sluggish state.

Coals.—Adur's, 15s 6d; Chester Main, 16s; New Tanfield, 14s 6d; Ord's Redheugh, 14s; West Wylam, 16s; Hotspur, 17s; W. E. Laubton, 19s 6d; Stewart's, 19s 9d; Adelaide, 19s 3d per ton. Slips arrived, 8s.

Smithfield.—We have had but moderate supplies of fat stock on offer here this week, yet the demand has ruled excessively heavy, and prices have had a downward tendency. Beef, from 3s to 4s 2d; mutton, 3s to 4s 2d; veal, 4s to 5s; and pork, 3s 10d to 4s 8d per 8 lbs, to sink the offals.

Newgate and Leadenhall.—The arrivals of slaughtered meat up to these markets, from Scotland and various parts of England, have announced this week to nearly 4000 carcasses, which have produced a very heavy general inquiry, at the following quotations:—Beef, from 2s 10d to 3s 6d; mutton, 3s to 3s 8d; veal, 4s to 4s 8d; and pork, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per 8 lbs, to sink the offals.

COMMERCE AND MONEY.

The information received from the manufacturing districts since our last publication has been more satisfactory than for some time past. In Coventry and its neighbourhood the silk trade is undergoing a visible improvement (although the consumption is considerably interfered with by French silk goods, to a considerable extent supplied by smugglers). The inquiries now in progress into the Custom-house relaxed manner of collecting the protective duties on the importation of foreign manufactures will, it is expected generally by the silk trade, end in the entire suppression of the illegal introduction of French silk goods in particular into this country; and then our silk-weavers at home, by increasing the supply of goods, will at the same time improve the trade, and reduce the value of their manufacture within the means of the great body of consumers to pay for them. From Paisley the advices are again favourable respecting the gradual but slow reaction in the silk and shawl trades to which we have lately had the satisfaction to allude. The transactions of the week at Leeds, Rochdale, Gloucester, and other places wherein woollen goods are manufactured, have been again rather considerable for the season of the year, and the raw material is gradually rising in value.

In the cotton trade the operations at the present time of the year seldom attract much of the public attention; but, after the late violent depression in this great department of our manufacturing industry, it is a pleasing task again to have the opportunity of repeating that, in Manchester, Glasgow, and other places connected with this branch of our commerce, the labourers continue to be productively employed.

In Mincing-lane the demand for colonial and Indian produce has continued dull, and sugars of all descriptions are again lower. The brokers generally are disposed to make sales, but this cannot be done to any great extent in the present state of the trade. Of teas, some private sales have been effected during the week, at what are called full prices. A large public sale, however, is advertised for the middle of this month, the result of which will probably give a ton to the market, and render prices more fixed than they latterly have been. In the drug market, and more particularly in the article of Turkey opium, the dealers wait the arrival of the East India and China marts, now hourly expected, before they venture to extend their operations, and in prices, consequently, little or rather no alteration can now be noted. Business generally is becoming more legitimate than it latterly has been; it is now settling down into actual transactions for consumption.

In the corn trade the demand is exceedingly dull, and it is difficult to obtain even the prices of the previous week.

The greatest difficulty in the City at the present moment is the profitable and safe employment of money. There is no difference at present in the prices of Consols for money and in those for the time settlement, and the fluctuation in them throughout this week has been confined to somewhere about 2 per cent., 94s to 95s being a high price to pay for an annual income of 3 per cent, but such is the present reduction in the actual value of money. In mining and railroad shares considerable activity still continues to be exhibited, but no further improvement in their prices has occurred during this week. On the Foreign Stock Exchange very little enterprise is discernible in any foreign bond transactions, and consequently no alteration in the late value of them can be noted, with the exception of Mexican bonds, which have declined nearly 1 per cent. The half monthly time account on this exchange was arranged in the beginning of this week, without any defaulters having been declared.

BRITISH FUNDS.—(CLOSING PRICES).—SATURDAY.

Bank Stock, 17s 3d	India Stock, 26s pm.
3 per Cent Reduced, 95s	Ditto Bonds, 60 pm.
3 per Cent Consols, 94s	Ditto Old Annuities,
3s per Cent Reduced, 102	Ditto New Annuities,
New 3s per Cent, 101s	Exchequer Bills, £1000, 2d. 64 pm.
New 5 per Cent,	Ditto £500, 63 pm.
Long Annuities to expire	Ditto Small, 65 pm.
Jan. 1840, 12 13-10	Bank Stock for Account,
Oct. 1839, 12 11-18	India Stock for Account,
Jan. 1840, 12 11-16	Consols for Account, 94s

SHARES.

Bristol and Exeter (70 paid),	London and Blockwall (—p), 5
Edinburgh and Glasgow (50 p), 47s	London and Birmingham (100 p), 210s
Great Western (65 paid), 93	Ditto Thirds (32 p),
Ditto New Shares (50 paid), 67s	Ditto New Shares (2 p), 36s
Ditto Fifth (12 paid), 17s	London and South Western (£41 6s. 10d

SUPPLEMENT TO THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 40.—VOL. II.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 4, 1843.

[GRATIS.]

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

OPENING OF THE SESSION.

Thursday being the day fixed for opening the present session of Parliament, increased enlivenment was observable about the West end, and the passing to and fro of gaudy equipages gave note of preparation that the London season had at length commenced. The crowds to be met with wending their way towards the Houses of Parliament were neither numerous nor well dressed; thus affording a convincing proof that, however interesting or important the matters to be debated, or however popular the great leaders of the antagonistic parties in the state, the royal pageant is, after all, the great magnet of attraction upon these occasions. For some time past it was generally known that her Majesty, by advice of her physicians, had declined opening the Parliament in person, the avoidance of excitement or fatigue being the only real reason that existed for this resolve, and the due announcement of the fact prevented anything like public disappointment.

The Lords Commissioners on the occasion were the Lord Chancellor, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Wharncliffe. Both Houses of Parliament assembled at half-past one. There were very few peers present in the House of Lords, but the seats were better occupied, as they presented a dazzling array of court beauties, who appeared to feel like flies in amber. There were several distinguished foreigners in the gallery, who evinced a deep interest as the reading of her Majesty's speech was proceeded with. Amongst the Peers on the Ministerial side we observed only Lord Cardigan, whilst on the Opposition we saw the Marquis of Lansdowne, Marquis of Clanricarde, the Earl of Radnor, Lord Campbell, Lord Monteagle, and several others who take a prominent part in the proceedings of the house. At two o'clock, the Commons having been previously summoned by the Black Rod to attend the bar of the upper house, the Lord Chancellor, seated in front of the throne with the other commissioners, proceeded to read

HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"We are commanded by her Majesty to acquaint you that her Majesty receives from all Princes and States assurances of a friendly disposition towards this country, and of an earnest desire to co-operate with her Majesty in the maintenance of general peace.

"By the treaty which her Majesty has concluded with the United States of America, and by the adjustment of those differences which, from their long continuance, had endangered the preservation of peace, her Majesty trusts that the amicable relations of the two countries have been confirmed.

"The increased exertions, which, by the liberality of Parliament, her Majesty was enabled to make for the termination of hostilities with China, have been eminently successful.

"The skill, valour, and discipline of the naval and military forces employed upon this service have been most conspicuous, and have led to the conclusion of peace upon the terms proposed by her Majesty.

"Her Majesty rejoices in the prospect that, by the free access which will be opened to the principal marts of that populous and extensive empire, encouragement will be given to the commercial enterprise of her people.

"As soon as the ratifications of the treaty shall have been exchanged, it will be laid before you.

"In concert with her allies, her Majesty has succeeded in obtaining from the Christian population of Syria the establishment of a system of administration which they were entitled to expect from the engagements of the Sultan, and from the good faith of this country.

"The differences for some time existing between the Turkish and Persian Governments had recently led to acts of hostility; but, as each of these States has accepted the joint mediation of Great Britain and Russia, her Majesty entertains a confident hope that their mutual relations will be speedily and amicably adjusted.

"Her Majesty has concluded with the Emperor of Russia a treaty of commerce and navigation, which will be laid before you. Her Majesty regards this treaty with great satisfaction, as the foundation for increased intercourse between her Majesty's subjects and those of the Emperor.

"Her Majesty is happy to inform you that complete success has attended the recent military operations in Afghanistan.

"Her Majesty has the greatest satisfaction in recording her high sense of the ability with which those operations have been directed, and of the constancy and valour which have been manifested by the European and native forces.

"The superiority of her Majesty's arms has been established by decisive victories on the scenes of former disaster; and the complete liberation of her Majesty's subjects who were held in captivity, and for whom her Majesty felt the deepest interest, has been effected.

"We are commanded by her Majesty to inform you that it has not been deemed advisable to continue the occupation by a military force of the countries to the westward of the Indus.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"Her Majesty has directed the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you.

"Such reductions have been made in the amount of the naval and military force as have been deemed compatible, under present circumstances, with the efficient performance of the public service throughout the extended empire of her Majesty.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"Her Majesty regrets the diminished receipt from some of the ordinary sources of revenue.

"Her Majesty fears that it must be, in part, attributed to the reduced consumption of many articles, caused by that depression of the manufacturing industry of the country which has so long prevailed, and which her Majesty has so deeply lamented.

"In considering, however, the present state of the revenue, her Majesty is assured that you will bear in mind that it has been materially affected by the extensive reductions in the import duties, which received your sanction during the last session of Parliament, and that little progress has been hitherto made in the collection of those taxes which were imposed for the purpose of supplying the deficiency from that and other causes.

"Her Majesty feels confident that the future produce of the revenue will be sufficient to meet every exigency of the public service.

"Her Majesty commands us to acquaint you that her Majesty derived the utmost gratification from the loyalty and affectionate attachment to her Majesty which were manifested on the occasion of her Majesty's visit to Scotland.

"Her Majesty regrets that, in the course of last year, the public peace in some of the manufacturing districts was seriously disturbed, and the lives and property of her Majesty's subjects were endangered by tumultuous assemblages and acts of open violence.

"The ordinary law promptly enforced was sufficient for the effectual repression of these disorders. Her Majesty confidently relies upon its efficacy, and upon the zealous support of her loyal and peaceable subjects, for the maintenance of tranquillity.

"We are commanded by her Majesty to acquaint you, that measures connected with the improvement of the law, and with various questions of domestic policy, will be submitted for your consideration.

"Her Majesty confidently relies on your zealous endeavours to promote the public welfare, and fervently prays that the favour of Divine Providence may direct and prosper your counsels, and make them conducive to the happiness and contentment of her people."

After the speech had been read in both houses, their lordships adjourned until five o'clock, and the Commons until four.

Previous to the adjournment of the house, the Earl of Auck-land, Viscount Hill, and Viscount Ponsonby, took the oaths and their seats.

Their lordships resumed at five o'clock, at which hour the Lord Chancellor took his seat upon the woolsack.

The Duke of WELLINGTON laid upon the table a bill for the better regulation of select vestries.

THE SPY SYSTEM IN IRELAND.—Earl FORTESCUE gave notice that he should, on Thursday next, put a question to the noble duke as to whether any inquiries had been made into the conduct of the provost and magistrates of Sligo, in employing spies to make discoveries relative to Ribbonism.

The noble earl likewise gave notice that he should move that the returns from the Irish constabulary, which were ordered by the house to be printed on the 8th of last August, should be laid upon the table, and that like returns should be laid before the house for every month until the close of the session.

Lord CAMPBELL gave notice that, on Monday, the 13th of February, he should move for the appointment of a select committee to take into consideration the laws relating to defamation and libel.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE gave notice that he should on Monday next move for certain returns relating to the operation of the poor-laws in Ireland, and he would likewise move that their lordships be summoned for that day.

THE ADDRESS.—The LORD CHANCELLOR then read her Ma-jesty's most gracious speech.

The speech having been again read by the clerk,

The Earl of Powis rose to move the adoption of the address.

He said: My lords, in rising to address your lordships, to propose for your adoption an address in answer to the gracious speech with which her Majesty has been pleased to direct the Lords Commissioners to open the present Parliament, I take the earliest opportunity of congratulating your lordships upon the happy state in which the foreign relations of this country stand,

and the prospect of peace, which is extending itself throughout all portions of the habitable globe connected with the British empire. My lords, I have the satisfaction of doing this, not in the form which is usual, but with sincerity and truth, knowing it to be the intentions of the Government of this country to carry out practically that principle of peace which is so essential to the benefit of the British empire. My lords, I ought not to deal with this question generally. I ought to consider it particularly, and I think I cannot do better for that purpose than by adopting the course laid down in her Majesty's speech. The importance of the first great question brought under the consideration of your lordships in that speech cannot be doubted,

when we recollect that it has been the subject of discussion between the two countries of England and America for the last quarter of a century, and when the result of these discussions has been more to disagree than to arrive at an amicable settlement. Under such circumstances it appeared to her Majesty's Government hopeless to pursue the usual course of entering into a correspondence between the Secretaries of State for the two countries. It was found that the adoption of such a course would not bring the matter to a satisfactory result, and it was therefore determined by her Majesty's Government to send out

a special mission to America, and for that purpose they selected a noble lord than whom, I will venture to say, never occurred greater unanimity than on his appointment. (Hear, hear.) The result of that mission has perfectly justified the expectations formed by her Majesty's Government, and the noble lord has the gratification of knowing that he has, on the most essential questions, given that hope and expectation of peace which ought to exist between two nations boasting a common origin, and having greater institutions than any other nations on earth. It is important that this question should be set at rest, because it has mixed itself up with all communications between this country and the United States. It has been a sore constantly festering, and, whatever differences have occurred, it has constantly been aggravated on both sides of the Atlantic. This question is now, fortunately, set at rest; and I hope and trust the result will be not only to secure a more amicable settlement between the citizens of the two countries, but will be the means of renewing those commercial intercourses which are so important to two such extensive communities. The next question to which I shall take the liberty of directing your lordships' attention is the conclusion of the war with China. (Hear, hear.) A very few short months only have elapsed since last we met in this place, and I believe that, at that time, there was not one of your lordships who entertained any expectation that, with regard to that great question, there was any prospect that it would be so speedily or so satisfactorily settled. We were all aware that nothing could equal the gallantry, the zeal, the spirit, or the energy of British troops or British seamen—(Cheers)—but we did not expect that this war would so soon have been brought to such a happy result. Our troops and seamen had to encounter many difficulties and dangers; they have had to penetrate into an unknown country; they have had to encounter the dangers of the climate, from which our troops have suffered more than from the sword. All these difficulties and dangers, however, they have overcome. They have shown themselves worthy of their established reputation, and have taught the Chinese Emperor that peace is better with the British empire than a continuation of the present state of things—a state of things in which their own obstinacy had unfortunately involved them. (Hear, hear.) It is with great satisfaction that I perceive the manner in which her Majesty has been pleased to characterise the exertions of the troops and seamen, both native and British, employed in this arduous service. (Hear, hear). The next subject to which I wish to direct your lordships' attention is the conclusion of the war in Afghanistan. That war has also been brought to a happy result. It would be unmanly if I attempted to deny the sad reverses which we previously experienced in that country. It would be unmanly if I did not admit that the difficulties under which we laboured in that country, in consequence of those reverses, were very great. It must be admitted that our reverses in that country had been disastrous in the extreme. Our duty was, in the first place, to redeem the honour of the British flag, and also restore to liberty the portion of her Majesty's subjects, both male and female, who had had the misfortune to be detained in captivity in Afghanistan. I will not now stop to raise the question, whether those ladies were justified in placing themselves in such a situation as to subject themselves to the chance of being involved in the manner in which they had been? It was sufficient to know that they were involved in such circumstances to make it our duty in the first place to vindicate the honour of the British flag, and in the second place to restore those captives to liberty. (Cheers.) Happily both those results have been accomplished. (Cheers.) The first step in the great work was accomplished by the noble and gallant defence of Jellalabad by Sir Robert Sale. (Cheers.) That was the first step in advance. I need not allude more particularly to the noble and gallant conduct of the troops under the command of General Pollock and of General Nott, in the various operations in which they have been engaged in Afghanistan, but I must be allowed to express the great satisfaction I feel at the manner in which her Majesty has been pleased to characterise the exertions of the forces in those countries. I am happy to say that not only have the British forces merited these encomiums, but that the native forces of the Hon. East India Company have proved themselves equally worthy with the British troops. Both the British and the native Indian troops are entitled to be highly lauded for their conduct during the campaign. I may be permitted to allude more particularly to this subject on account of the connection of my family with India. (Cheers.) Greater devotion could not be shown by any troops than that exhibited by the native troops during the late hostilities in India—troops, than which any more worthy to serve in line with the British forces cannot be found. The same fidelity, the same devotion, the same gallantry, which, now near a century ago, was exhibited by the ancestors of these very troops—whether we look to the great contest which made us masters of Seringapatam and enabled us to turn the tyrant Tippoo from his throne, or whether we look to the first and greater actions in which the noble duke—(Hear, hear)—led the British arms. The same opinion, my lords, holds good with regard to the arms of the more northern settlement of India. The same valour was exhibited by the descendants of the troops who fought the battle of Plessy. And what were the consequences of these disasters which, for a time, dimmed British glory? They afforded an opportunity merely of securing a complete triumph upon the scenes where they had taken place. The native troops have been enabled to restore the splendour which has always accompanied and distinguished the British flag. My lords, had I occasion to stop here I should consider myself as having more than the ordinary fortune of the person who has the honour of moving the address to the Queen's speech in your lordships' house. But her Majesty has not been satisfied to give her exertions to the countries within her own immediate dominion, or occupied by her own subjects, but she has had the precaution to secure to the Christian population of Syria, that happiness which has been the object of all persons professing Christianity. (Hear, hear.) Her Majesty has also been engaged, in common with the Russian Government, in endeavouring to bring about a reconciliation of the differences that have hitherto existed between Turkey and Persia, and there is reason to congratulate ourselves on the probability of her Majesty's success in this. My lords, we can refer with satisfaction to the feelings which her Majesty expresses upon calling Parliament together with respect to the prosperity of our relations with foreign powers. Her Majesty has been enabled to complete an important commercial treaty with the Emperor of Russia, by which her Majesty has laid the foundation of, I trust, a material increase in the commerce of her Majesty's subjects with that great and extended empire. The results of this measure can hardly be calculated. I may also advert with satis-

SUPPLEMENT TO

tion to the tranquillity which exists with the United States, as well as to the establishment of commerce with five of the principal ports of China, and also to the treaty with Russia, to which I have just alluded. No expectations could be more gratifying or agreeable in this respect. I wish it were in my power to turn with equal satisfaction to the state in which we find ourselves at home. We cannot conceal from ourselves the conviction that great masses of the population of this country, in the course of the last year, have been unable to avail themselves to the same extent as formerly of those enjoyments which they usually possess. For although the alterations submitted to Parliament last year, and adopted by your lordships and the other House of Parliament, may account, to a considerable extent, for the depression in the revenue, I am afraid it cannot be concealed from ourselves that those alterations have not alone caused so material a diminution. But it is not in my province, nor is the present the proper occasion on which, to refer to this topic. It is a subject of too much importance not to be allowed a full and fair discussion by itself. I shall, therefore, only observe on this point on the peculiar propriety of the word in which her Majesty has in her speech adverted to it, namely, that, although there is a material deficiency in the revenue, there is no reason to expect but that all the emergencies of the state will be fully met. Another subject which I feel called on to mention to your lordships is the outbreak which occurred in some of the mining districts of England in the early part of last autumn. It will be a matter of satisfaction to your lordships to know that the ordinary powers of the law were sufficient to check that manifestation. To those who are acquainted with the details of those events, and to those who were unfortunate enough to be called on to take a part in them, it must be a cause of gratification that the good sense of the working population had taught them that the results they were aiming at could only be prejudicial to them, and that it was their interest as well as their duty peaceably to abide under the protection of the law. Those measures which will be introduced for the beneficial improvement in the laws of the country, I am sure, will receive the best attention from your lordships; and I beg to take the liberty of recommending them to your lordships' earnest consideration. There is only one topic more to which I feel it necessary to allude: that is the visit of her Majesty to Scotland. Of this your lordships will allow me to speak with pride and satisfaction; and although I cannot say that we can boast of possessing those classic grounds which caused the Roman poet to exclaim in a burst of enthusiasm, "Hic Tiber est, hic Campus Martius," yet we have that which may induce her Majesty to repeat her visit, and, if we are again honoured with her presence, I trust we shall prove to her Majesty, whenever she again ventures among us, that she has the affections and the loyalty of her people. The noble lord concluded by reading and moving the address, which was a mere repetition of the topics alluded to in the Queen's speech.

had never been the true feeling of this country, but that they had seen, on the part of the Government of this country, a wish to come to terms with the Chinese at the least possible expense of Chinese life and property, and with the least pressure, for the purpose of carrying the great object which they had in view into effect with satisfaction. Nevertheless, in noticing these particular parts of the subject, he could not but advert to one other which had been introduced, and perhaps inadvertently expressed, in the speech from the throne, and it was something which was hardly distinctly affirmed. It was stated in the speech that "the increased exertions which, by the liberality of Parliament, her Majesty's Ministers had been enabled to make for the termination of hostilities with China, had been eminently successful." Now, he did not know to what acts of liberality this particular expression attributed this termination of hostilities with China. He was not aware of any great act of liberality on the part of the Government last year—there was no act of Parliament which had been extremely liberal. But to what did the passage refer? Was it the income-tax, which had been introduced by her Majesty's Government, by which they were enabled to make these continued and increased exertions in China? There must have been, on the part of those who had framed the speech, an intense desire to say something favourable of the income-tax that this observation was introduced. (Laughter.) Noble lords opposite seemed to think (and he himself had had as much to do with concocting speeches as most men) that, when all the other paragraphs were made, they must get in something in favour of the income-tax, and therefore they said, "Let us connect it with the conquest of China." Now, he heard of tacks made to bills sent up from one house to the other, but he had never heard of such a tack as this to a speech. But the income-tax was not connected with these conquests in any respect; for, before the period when it was prepared, the requisite measures for the attainment of the object had been previously taken. He must affirm, and he did so without fear of contradiction, that those means had been proposed, and had been wisely employed in the Chinawar, and that they were supported by the then Government at home, and by the late Governor-General of India immediately on the failure of the negotiations with China. He thought it no matter of reproach to that Government that, so long as there was a hope of accommodation with the Chinese by pacific means and negotiations, those means had been employed; but from the very moment the means of negotiating failed, and the transactions with the Chinese were of such a nature as to require it, the then Government took care that that particular description of force should be employed for a more extended scale of operations which had been pointed out by his noble friend, the late Governor-General of India. That plan was immediately complied with by the present Government, and exactly the same number of regiments as had been named were employed, namely, four regiments of Sepoys. This was before the income-tax. The addition of one European regiment was made. This was done independent of the liberality of Parliament which had been introduced into the speech. These were matters to which he hoped the attention of Parliament and of the Ministers also would be specially directed, in connection with our relations with China, as affecting the great commercial benefits which must result to this country. The magnitude of the object accomplished, when viewed with respect to its possible effect on the interests of the human race, could not be overrated. It was nearly equal in magnitude to that great revolution and event, the discovery of the transatlantic world three centuries ago, and the consequences of which those three centuries had hitherto but imperfectly enjoyed. In like manner, this was an event which would affect the interests of the world for ever in proportion as it was wisely used. It resembled the discovery of America by its embracing almost as great a space of territory, 20 degrees of latitude by 20 degrees of longitude, being opened to the interests of mankind. But it was not, like America, a country but thinly populated, for it was inhabited by hundreds of millions, partially civilized, and ready to receive the intercourse which it was in the power of all European countries to carry on. But he said it would require all the skill, all the attention, and all the assiduity of the Government to lay the foundation of the intercourse with that people, so that it should continue to operate undisturbed and beneficially for the interests of the great masses who would be affected by it. Nothing that precaution could imagine should be neglected to guard against injustice, and to satisfy both the Government and the people of China that not only their interests but their prejudices would be respected—(Hear, hear)—and that we did not enter their country as conquerors, but as friends who wished to communicate with them on a footing of equality. (Hear, hear.) He therefore implored her Majesty's Government to give their attention to this subject, and particularly to the judicious selection of persons to whom authority must be entrusted. He did not suspect the anxiety of her Majesty's Ministers on this subject, but he said that heavier responsibility was never thrown on any persons than the selection which in the first instance they would have to make. If properly made, he was sure Parliament would not be backward in arming those persons with the legal authority necessary for the due exercise of their functions, and so give every sort of security for the continuance of those relations which would affect the interests of the world long after their lordships had ceased to have existence. (Hear, hear.) Having said so much, he would abstain from going into the consideration of those topics which her Majesty had been advised to omit, and particularly that of the distressed state of the country. The noble marquis then eulogised the patience with which the labouring classes in most parts of the country had borne their privations, and remarked that, where disturbances had occurred, the loss of life and property was considerably less than on any similar occasion in the history of this country. He thought this circumstance ought to add to the desire they must all feel, by any sacrifice, to palliate the distresses of the people, without holding out to them expectations which they would be unable to fulfil. (Hear.) With these observations he would conclude, without offering any sort of opposition to the address.

The Duke of WELLINGTON said he was in hopes the tenor of the speech which had been delivered by her Majesty's command, and of the able speeches of his two noble friends, the mover and seconder of the address, would have induced the noble marquis (the Marquis of Lansdowne), if he thought proper to make any observations at all, to abstain from that description of observation which would render it necessary for him to enter into any discussion on that occasion, or take any notice of what he had addressed to their lordships. But the noble marquis had not only attacked the speech for what it did not say, but also on the score of veracity. They had been told her Majesty had been advised to advert to the liberality of Parliament as having enabled her forces to bring the war in a early and successful termination, and then that it was not of the income-tax, and that they could not say that the income-tax was the instance of the liberality of Parliament. He begged their lordships to remember the common course of parliamentary proceeding (the ordinary right of a member of the House of Commons, for it was the common cause of the noble lords) was, for her Majesty to command, when engaged in war, to come down with the voice of the House necessary for carrying it on, of the exertion of, and to propose means for finding money to pay

those expenses. (Hear.) True, that course was totally abandoned by noble lords opposite, when in office. (Laughter.) They carried on war all over the world with a peace establishment, and concluded, of course, that those who succeeded them would do the same. Now, that was exactly what they (the present Government) did not do. (Cheers and laughter.) The noble marquis said he was one of those who thought we ought not to have submitted to the conduct of the officers of the Emperor of China, or to become his custom-house officers. He begged the noble marquis to remember that he (the Duke of Wellington) was almost the single individual in that house who stated, on the motion of a noble lord near him, the real ground of complaint against the Chinese Government was its conduct towards a person employed in the service and representing the person of her Majesty. (Hear.) He said then and now that the war was a just and necessary war on the part of her Majesty's Government; and he said further, that, if it had been solely a war for the robbery of the opium, he thought the interests of the country and its honour were involved in that war, and that her Majesty's Government should have made every effort for carrying it on, and have come down to Parliament for assistance to bring it to a successful termination. (Hear.) He was afterwards a party to advising her Majesty on the measures necessary for these purposes, and what was it they did? They recommended her Majesty to recommend to Parliament to grant additional forces and money for carrying on the war, and not a week elapsed after they came into office before an order was sent to India to send reinforcements, and reinforcements were also sent from England, both troops and ships, which arrived in time for, and were engaged in, the operations which brought that war to a close. (Hear.) So far with respect to the veracity of the speech. (Hear.) But it was said that it was the same plan and the same operations as those carried on by the former Government. He begged the noble marquis's pardon. He (the Marquis of Lansdowne) seemed to forget altogether the evacuation of the island of Chusan, and the withdrawal of our ships from the northern parts of the Chinese seas, and it was thought desirable for him to remind the house that the speech delivered by her Majesty's command was wanting in veracity. (Hear.) The noble marquis had recommended to them the manner in which they ought to proceed in establishing relations between this country and China, and told them all depended on the measures first adopted for that purpose. Very true; and he hoped if any such measures were adopted they would be carried into execution. (Hear.) That was forgotten on the last occasion of a change in the nature of our relations with China. There was an admirable plan which would probably have prevented the recent misfortunes, but it was never adopted. (Hear, hear.) He was in office a short time, and left a memorandum recommending certain measures for adoption, but up to the moment the war broke out not one of them was ever carried into execution. (Hear, hear.) Having said thus much with respect to China, he would advert to another subject on which he hoped the noble marquis would have avoided all topics of irritation: he meant the transactions in India; but when the noble marquis attacked the Governor-General of India, on account of the orders he had issued, he must say, knowing something of India, and something of military affairs, that he stood there prepared to justify every order or movement, whether one way or the other, which had taken place under the authority of the Governor-General, from the moment he took upon himself to administer the affairs of India to the present moment. (Cheers.) The Governor-General, as soon as he took upon himself the government of India, did as much as he was enabled to do according to the state of preparation in which he found matters there at the moment. He could not have done more. (Hear.) Every order that he gave, whether to halt or to march, was an order absolutely necessary for the safety of the troops at the time—his immediate orders were not occasioned by any act of his, but by the position in which he found affairs upon his arrival in India. He (the Duke of Wellington) felt obliged to say thus much in defence of an absent servant of the Crown, who, he firmly believed, had done his duty by the British public. (Hear, hear.) He regretted that this topic had been touched upon by the noble marquis upon the present occasion; because, if there was anything to be found fault with in any of these transactions, he was sure it could not be attributed to the conduct of the present Governor-General. Again, he was sorry that so much allusion had been made by the noble marquis with respect to the negotiations which had recently been concluded with the United States. He really thought it would be much better if his noble friend had waited to make his observations until the papers in reference to those negotiations should have been laid on the table of the house, and that their lordships should have had an opportunity of considering them, and of seeing upon what grounds all the points of the matter rested, and with what view the treaty had been concluded by his noble friend. The noble marquis seemed altogether to forget the measures of the Government, to which he himself was a party, with respect to this very question—he seemed altogether to forget these, and the adoption by that Government of the award of the King of the Netherlands. A dispute arose in reference to a territory, to put an end to which it became necessary that a boundary line should be drawn. The Government of the United States insisted upon one line of boundary, and the Government of this country insisted upon another. The question was referred to an arbitrator, and he gave an award, which was adopted by this country, but to which the United States would not accede. In this state of things, then, it was determined that his noble friend (Lord Ashburton) should proceed to the United States, with the view of effecting a new arrangement—that arrangement had been completed, and it was one which, he believed, was satisfactory in every point of view to this country, and more particularly so because it put an end to a dispute which had been of long existence between the Governments of the two countries. As he had before observed, the papers in reference to the new arrangement were not yet in the hands of their lordships, and he thought it was not fair that they should discuss the subject on the present occasion. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

Lord Brougham said he was quite aware that he rose to address their lordships under considerable disadvantage, in following, as he did, the noble marquis near him, and his noble friend opposite, who spoke upon subjects of all kinds which came before the house, in a manner which commanded the greatest interest and attention, and which gave to his opinions the greatest possible weight of authority; but upon this particular occasion he had to deal with a subject of which he, of all men living, might be said to know the most; and, as the highest living authority upon it, he must needs have done—as in point of fact he had done—riveted the attention of their lordships. Nevertheless, because he had left out one or two material considerations which now pressed upon the public attention, and because he thought that these considerations involved interests of the highest order to the prosperity and peace of this country, he deemed it to be his bounden duty to trespass for a short time upon their lordships' attention while he referred to them. (Hear.) The first of these was the newly ratified treaty with America, and he heartily concurred with the noble marquis and the noble duke in expressing sentiments which he believed they felt in common with all parties both in and out of Parliament—(Hear)—sentiments of the greatest exultation that the differences between the United

States and this country had been at length put an end to. (Hear, hear, hear.) But as to the terms of the settlement, and the line of boundary which had been so much talked of out of doors, for his own part, he must say he cared not how that line was drawn—it was a matter which was entirely indifferent to him what direction it took, let it go a few miles to the right or to the left, even let it affect the navigation of the St. John's River—they might take all, and he would give it willingly up for the establishment and maintenance of a good understanding between America and England. (Cheers.) But he was not left to this question alone in defending the treaty of his noble friend opposite. There was another and a great question which had also been a subject of controversy between the two countries for a long period: he meant that of the slave trade, and he must say that he felt not a little proud of acknowledging himself an old ally of his noble friend in establishing a good understanding between England and America on that subject. But, taking into consideration the admirable skill, the temperate firmness, and the conciliating powers of his noble friend, together with incidental circumstances connecting him with the United States, he, of all her Majesty's subjects, was the man who was best calculated to bring the negotiations in question to their present satisfactory termination—(Hear, hear, and cheers)—to a termination which not only gave to us peace, but established a cordial understanding between their Government and ours, and brought back those feelings of goodwill which for a long time had unhappily been estranged. (Cheers.) Now with regard to the terms of the noble lord's negotiation. The line of boundary, said the noble marquis, involved great concessions on the part of this country to the United States. Concessions was the word, according to the judicious dictio[n] of the noble marquis, but capitulation was applied by factious critics out of doors. They were, however, equally disposed in reference to the terms of the treaty. How did the matter stand? Two charges were brought forward with regard to concessions in settling the boundary line. The settlement which was awarded by the King of the Netherlands had been approved of by the late Administration of this country, and the very same settlement had been obtained for us by his noble friend with one exception, and that exception involved a concession from America instead of from us. (Hear, hear.) But that a few hundred square leagues of territory should stand in the way of an honest and hearty understanding with our American neighbours was a matter which he could not contemplate—he could not stop to weigh one against the other—the feather against the pure gold. (Cheers.) Then came the navigation of the St. John's River, which was distinctly referred to in the award of the King of the Netherlands. The River St. John flowed through three descriptions of territory. Part of the stream flowed through American territory only; part of it through territory which was American on one side and English on the other; and a third part—which was by far the most important of the whole—flowed through English colonial territory. Now, to any person acquainted, he would not say with geographical matters, but with the question of navigation—even to a person who professed ignorance, as he himself did, of the subject—it might appear obvious that, out of the three descriptions of territory he had just referred to, the one which this country should be least anxious to give up was the third, inasmuch as the territory on either side of the river was English. That portion of the territory had been obtained for us under the treaty, and he was sure it would be a subject for congratulation to all those who heard him. (Hear.) He could not conclude his observations on this matter without once more expressing his entire and hearty satisfaction at the success of his noble friend's negotiations, and his gratitude to his noble friend, and his exultation as a British subject and a citizen of the world that our disputes with America were at an end. (Hear, hear.) And he now begged to call the attention of their lordships from the affairs of the West to those of the East, and to express, in common with the noble marquis and the noble duke, his gratification at the happy, some might perhaps call it the glorious, termination of the war there. He, however, was disposed to call it a happy termination, because they had been delivered from that war. No one could listen to the justification of the conduct of the Governor-General by the noble duke without feeling the importance of that opinion. It was, he thought, decisive of the question, if that question had ever been of doubtful issue. The highest living authority on military subjects had pronounced a decisive acquittal of the Governor-General, and the opinion could not fail to have a great influence all over the world. (Hear, hear.) But there were some transactions at the end of the Afghan war to which he could not but look with considerable pain—transactions which to his mind required some explanation. They might possibly be capable of explanation or extenuation—they might possibly, for aught he knew, be justifiable, and to hear that they were so would save him not a little anguish; but in reference to these late transactions the English character had been brought to the bar of public opinion all over Europe, and he blushed for the result. Great and mighty bazaars of industry—indications of peaceful prosperity—had been levelled with the ground, and their fragments scattered in the dust—great cities had been set fire to—in one instance, four in one night; and the troops had been let loose on the offending people, thousands of whom were hunted down like vermin. (Hear, hear.) Perhaps all this might be explained and palliated, but at present he confessed that he regarded with pain, horror, and shame, those passages at the end of the war in Afghanistan. The Afghans, however, could not be considered otherwise than as an unoffending, though ignorant, people, who not knowing the political purposes for which we sent our army into their territories felt indignant at the encroachment, and perhaps with that feeling committed some excesses. They were perhaps guilty of many cruelties, but the only party to be blamed for the devastation which followed—devastation which was as needless as it was ruthless, and vice versa—were those into whose hands the government of our troops had been thrown—perhaps he should say those who had sent them into that district of India. Their lordships would recollect that all purposes for British interests had been gained at that period, but that to gratify a brutal, a savage, an unchristian spirit of vengeance, to further and work out a policy which he could not give any other name to but that of weak, empty, self-repugnant, and self-destructive, leaving impressions of the power of England in the minds of the native Indians, and implanting in their bosoms an inextinguishable detestation of the British name and the British character, for these purposes cruelties such as these had been resorted to. (Hear.) Those sentiments, he could assure their lordships, were uttered without the slightest factious motive—(hear)—but he felt that he could not allow the present occasion to pass without entering his protest against the proceedings which terminated the Afghan war. (Hear.) It was with great pleasure he saw that paragraph in her Majesty's speech which gave an assurance of a continued peace with foreign powers, more especially with regard to our friendly relations with that power on which hung the peace of Europe. (Hear.) He thought their lordships would forgive him for entering somewhat more into detail than he should have done but from the course the debate had taken. He thought, however, that this debate would have a salutary effect elsewhere. There existed in France a great ignorance at the present moment—he did

menced. I mean, Sir, the gratifying announcement that the Sovereign of this country continues to receive firm assurances of friendly regard from all foreign powers. (Hear, hear, hear.) These, Sir, are assurances from which I trust we may augur a long continuance of that peace with which it has pleased Providence so long to bless the nations of Europe. But there is one announcement to which I feel particular pleasure in calling upon this house to respond: I mean that part of the speech in which her Majesty informs us that a treaty has been concluded upon a satisfactory basis with the United States of America. (Hear, hear.) I am sure, Sir, that, however great are the evils of war, every one in this house will agree with me that they are not merely to be measured by the loss of blood and the waste of treasure, but that there is a still greater evil in the disruption of those ties which ought to bind the families of mankind together. (Hear.) Those evils would be tenfold, if such should happen between us and that kindred community which has sprung up under our auspices. (Hear.) We are bound to that community by the kindred of blood, by the similarity of laws, and the identity of our language and our religion. (Hear, hear.) I am sure, Sir, that no man who hears me can look without interest upon the progress of that community from its infancy to its present and enduring maturity. (Hear, hear.) I am sure that every man must feel with me that the evil of any interruptions of our friendly relations with the people of America would be an injury not only to ourselves but to the rest of humanity. (Cheers.) It is, therefore, Sir, with unhesitating confidence I call upon the house to express its satisfaction upon the adjustment of those differences which had for some time existed. (Hear, hear.) I am sure the house will not hesitate to express its satisfaction with the wisdom and conciliatory feeling on both sides, by which this adjustment has been happily effected, with a just regard to the national honour of two great countries. (Hear, hear.) Let me turn now, Sir, to another announcement which her Majesty has graciously made respecting the triumphant close of the war in Afghanistan—a war which was carried on under circumstances of no ordinary difficulty—in a country of a peculiar character, and amidst foes of unknown numbers, of untried courage, of strange discipline, and unparalleled ferocity. That extraordinary war has now been brought to a triumphant close by the constancy and valour of our troops, to which, I trust, we shall be the first to offer the just meed of applause. (Hear, hear, hear.) It were idle—it were unnecessary—now to dwell upon the reverses of a former campaign. But, Sir, I cannot speak upon this subject without inviting the house to call to recollection the many instances of individual valour and power of endurance which were manifested by our troops, both European and native—instances which make us feel the greater satisfaction that that courage was not exhibited in vain, and that that suffering was not unattended with good results; for it leads us to reflect with increased satisfaction that British honour has been vindicated, and that the superiority of British arms has been established on the scenes of former reverses. Sympathising deeply, therefore, with what our troops have experienced, and still more in accordance with the expression of interest of her Majesty upon this topic; moreover, entertaining feelings of admiration and respect for those heroic captives, who in the hour of danger and suffering exhibited a manly spirit of daring, united with, and elevated by, a power of endurance, however great, which peculiarly belongs to the female character—(cheers)—taking a warm interest in the fortunes of those captives, we shall no longer delay to concur cordially in the expression of the address, which I will venture to submit to your notice, in acknowledgment of the valour and constancy of her Majesty's troops, and of a deep conviction that in withdrawing beyond the Indus we leave behind us an indelible memorial of British courage and British valour. We may turn with feelings of perhaps a less mixed character to another topic suggested by her Majesty's speech: I mean our relations with China, and I am sure that, with equal satisfaction, we shall learn that a treaty has been concluded with China, resulting from the superiority of our naval and military forces, and founded upon terms which her Majesty has proposed. We may, I trust, look forward to this as the commencement of a permanent and salutary intercourse between this country and that mighty and extensive land. We may, I trust, look somewhat even beyond that—we may, I trust, look to those more enduring results, and those noble triumphs, which shall emanate from that intercourse. I mean the triumphs of knowledge over ignorance—of civilization over barbarism—of Christianity over heathenism and infidelity. There is one result in which I believe we may now rejoice, as having already taken place—I mean the revival of commercial intercourse with that country—an intercourse which bids fair to be firm, constant, and systematic, and which opens a new and untried market for the productions of our manufacturing industry. There is not, I am sure, a gentleman that I am now addressing who does not feel that if ever there was a time when the prospect of new markets for our manufactures was essential, this is now that period. (Cheers from the Opposition.) Sir, we are informed by her Majesty's speech of a fact, alas! of which the experience of most hon. gentlemen whom I now address has made them aware—that considerable bodies, masses of our manufacturing population, have been suffering for some time under a state of distress occasioned by the depression of the markets of some departments of our manufacturing industry. Sir, we must learn with great regret, as evidence of that fact, the inability of a large portion of our manufacturing population to purchase those articles of comfort, or even of necessity, which under more prosperous circumstances they had been accustomed to; but this inability is one of the causes to which we are to trace the diminution in the receipts from ordinary sources of revenue which is announced to us in her Majesty's speech. That that diminution may be, and is, justly attributable also to other causes—to causes which may be, and it is hoped will be, temporary in their nature, and which cannot but have been present to the minds of those who originated and carried the great financial changes of last year—I mean to the reduction in the duties upon imports—is no doubt a matter which it is satisfactory and gratifying to believe. But, Sir, at the same time, the fact remains—a fact which is brought before us in this the very first stage of our proceedings—that large bodies of our manufacturing population are in a state of distress and depression. Sir, it is with no language of cold and ordinary condolence and pity that I now take this opportunity of saying what has been so often said upon that subject. We cannot but sympathise deeply with the way in which, I will say not only the manufacturing, but the agricultural portion of this community have often borne distress and privations, submitting to them with a fortitude and resignation deserving of a better fate. Such a circumstance renders their distresses still more entitled to the calm consideration of an English and Christian legislature. This state of things exists. Of the remedies for this state of things this is neither the fitting time, nor am I a person qualified to speak; but, Sir, this much I may be permitted to say, that while I look forward with hope to the result which will follow from the continued operation of the commercial and financial changes of last year, and to the prevalence, the gradual prevalence, in foreign countries of sounder principles of international policy—(Hear, hear)—while I look forward to those considerations, I must be permitted also to say that any remedy for the national distress which legislation can supply is to be found, not in any crude and hasty measures, not in attempts to exalt and magnify the importance of one interest

above others.—("Hear, hear," on the Opposition benches, repeated by the members on the Ministerial side)—it is not to be found, I say, in endeavours to magnify any one in trust above others, but in a calm and dispassionate consideration of all the interests of the community—(Cheers from both sides of the house)—while we weigh justly and duly the importance of each in the social scale of our country, attaching and assigning to each its due share among the elements of our national greatness; and while we take into account all the component parts of this great community, giving a just and fair consideration to such peculiar circumstances and to such peculiar burdens as may result from a complicated and artificial state of society. It is because I traced, in the conduct of her Majesty's Ministers, the operation of such principles of legislation that, however unwilling I was to obtrude myself upon the notice of the house, I think it my duty, in acceding to the proposal made to me, not to shrink from the public expression, as the representative of a large and important constituency, of the general confidence which I entertain in her Majesty's present advisers. In the great financial measures of last year the country recognised a great scheme, not to be judged of in its individual parts, or in its temporary operation, but to be looked at upon the whole and in a series of years. (Hear, hear.) I believe that if her Majesty's Ministers continue to act with a similar union of boldness, prudence, and caution; if, in the measures which may hereafter be propounded, an anxiety for the general welfare be exhibited in union with a due regard to the various interests of the country; if they show themselves ready and anxious to maintain peace at the risk of everything but national honour; to promote economy at the hazard of everything except the efficiency of the public service; introduce change where change may be improvement, but to repudiate and reject it where it is nothing but innovation; I believe, Sir, if her Majesty's Ministers continue to act upon these principles, they will also continue to receive, as in my judgment they will continue to deserve, the confidence of a large portion of the country. (Cheers.) Sir, it is with these views and these feelings that I have come forward on this occasion to propose the address in answer to her Majesty's gracious speech; and I have only, before I proceed to read the address which I shall submit, to express my grateful acknowledgments to the house for the kind forbearance which they have manifested. (Cheers.) The noble lord then moved the address, which was, as usual, an echo of her Majesty's speech.

Mr. W. P. S. MILES said: In rising to second the address, which has just been so ably proposed by the noble lord, in answer to her Majesty's most gracious speech, I trust I shall be allowed that indulgence which I know this house is ever ready to extend to a young member making his first address. It is with no ordinary feelings of embarrassment that I undertake the task for which I have found it necessary to ask the favourable consideration of the house, and I trust that, in the few remarks which it will be incumbent on me to make, I shall make use of no expression calculated to disturb that spirit of harmony and unanimity which it is so desirable should prevail on the present occasion. (Hear.) I shall endeavour, Sir, to confine my remarks to as short a space as will be consistent with the importance of the topics on which it will be necessary for me to dilate. It is with feelings of peculiar pride and satisfaction that I advert to the glorious termination of the campaign in Afghanistan. I believe that on few occasions in the history of that country have victories so important to the security and stability of our Indian empire been achieved. I conceive that it is a matter of congratulation that her Majesty's army should have so nobly triumphed over every difficulty, and should have so gloriously recovered the laurels which previous events had torn from their brows; that, notwithstanding the severity of the climate, and the almost insurmountable nature of the mountain passes, they had, by the skilful guidance of their commanders, rescued the prisoners from captivity, and exemplified the maxim—that England leaves no insult unavenged, that her faith is inviolable when once pledged, that her punishment of treachery is instant and certain, and that, while she strikes terror into the hearts of her enemies, she is at all times ready, even in the midst of success, to listen to the dictates of humanity and reason. It would be presumptuous in me to enter into the question of our Indian policy; but I cannot hesitate to express my approval of the policy pursued by the Governor-General of India. It may be necessary sometimes to make an example for the purpose of preserving our Indian empire. I think the talent of the Governor-General in cementing our power and authority by his prudent and vigorous administration of affairs—by giving a stimulus to that internal trade and commerce which the interests of this country demand—has done more to retain the stability of our empire than could be done by any other means. (Hear, hear, hear.) The next topic to which I shall advert is the successful issue of our operations in China, which is not only a subject of importance to England, but to the whole world. I think this, coupled with the brilliant success of our arms in India, will be the distinguishing feature of her Majesty's reign, as this nation may be the means of opening a country which has been hitherto unknown to Europe, and of introducing into it the inestimable blessings of the Christian religion. (Hear, hear.) As a young member, I will not discuss the line of policy pursued by the late Administration, but I trust I am not too bold in expressing my approval of the energy which the present Administration has shown in bringing the war in China to a triumphant close. They displayed an exertion of force adequate to the dignity and importance of the undertaking which sustained the glory of the British arms. I can scarcely calculate the advantage to be derived from the ratification of the treaty of commerce with China, or form any opinion of the amount of trade likely to be carried on with that country; but, Sir, if the relations which we hear of that country be true—if the population be so numerous as it is supposed, and if the prejudices of Asia permit a more enlightened system of policy with Europe—I do not think any treaty could be of more importance, or more calculated to benefit trade and commerce. (Hear.) I congratulate the house that the long-pending boundary question between this country and America has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion by the talents of the noble lord to whom the conducting of that question had been confided. I cannot but think that the maintenance of peace between the two countries is of much more importance than a portion of disputed territory. That question, which had been contested for fifty years, is now finally settled, and I believe it is for the interests of civilization that a dangerous and expensive war has been avoided. (Hear.) I think this house will concur with me in regretting the disturbances which took place last autumn in the manufacturing districts. I rejoice that these disturbances have been suppressed by the energy of the civil authority without any great display of military force, or without the assistance of a fresh law. I regret that these disturbances have arisen; but, notwithstanding the pressure in trade, I think the spirit of insurrection is to be attributed to the means and to the topics made use of by demagogues to excite their passions. (Cheers.) I trust that the news from the East and the new treaty with Russia will contribute to relieve our commerce, and that the measures which have been adopted last session will promote commerce, and at the same time help to equalize the expenditure and revenue of the country. It will require more decisive measures to restore public credit, and to develop the resources of the

country. The deficiency in the revenue has continued, which, I believe, is to be attributed to the deficient harvest of 1841. (Hear, hear.) But, I trust, the amount of revenue from the property and income tax may counterbalance this deficiency, and that next year the revenue will so far revive that this tax may be done away with. (Hear.) Notwithstanding the efforts that have been used, panic after panic succeeded among the agriculturists. They had been called on to bear unusual burdens, but, if they contribute to relieve other branches of industry, I believe they will be borne cheerfully. (Hear, hear.) I think the house has heard with pleasure of her Majesty's visit to Scotland. (Hear, hear.) The characteristic hospitality of Scotland and their abundant loyalty marked throughout the progress of her Majesty. (Cheers.) The recollection of her Majesty's late visit will be cherished in the hearts of her Scottish subjects, and will create an effect that will long survive. I have endeavoured, in a few words, to bring forward the topics introduced in the speech from the throne, and I hope the house will unanimously agree to the address, which, if adopted without any dissent, will prove the more gratifying to her Majesty. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, I beg to thank the house for the kindness it has extended to me. (Loud cheers.) The address was then read by the Speaker. The question having been put,

Mr. C. Wood said he had no doubt that the noble lord in no degree miscalculated the feelings of that house when he gave expression to the satisfaction which every one must feel at the announcement contained in her Majesty's speech of the termination of those hostilities in which this country had been engaged in two quarters, and of the improved prospect of peace, arising from the termination of differences with the United States. With respect to the termination of hostilities with China, he apprehended that no feeling but one of satisfaction could prevail. However confidently we might rely upon the skill and valour of our troops, no one could contemplate without anxiety the continuance of hostilities at such a distance from this country with a population so large, in a country of which we knew so little; still less could any one contemplate, without feelings of the greatest regret, the indiscriminate slaughter of a brave though barbarous people. (Hear, hear.) It had been the result of that war—a result which seldom attended such operations—that every object for which it was undertaken had been effected. Reparation had been made for the cruel and insulting hardships heaped upon British residents; compensation had been made to our merchants for the losses which they had sustained; indemnity had been obtained for the expenses of the war; and he thought the noble lord was justified in anticipating that an opening had been made for our commerce which would be beneficial not only to this country but to China herself, to whose inhabitants it would secure the benefits of humanity, of civilization, and of religion. (Loud cheers.) With respect to the satisfaction which the noble lord had expressed at the conclusion of the operations in Afghanistan, he (Mr. Wood) apprehended there would be no difference of opinion in that house. (Hear.) There could be no difference of opinion as to the advance upon Kabul, and the vindication of the honour of our troops. (Hear, hear.) But the house was not called upon on this occasion to express any opinion whatever as to the general policy upon which these operations were conducted; because already two notices of motion had been given, by the hon. member for Bath, and the Right Hon. the First Lord of the Treasury, which would afford opportunity enough to discuss that question. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that, before these motions came on, her Majesty's Ministers would be able to lay before the house the information necessary to form a correct judgment of those operations. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that the information which Ministers already possessed would enable them to contradict the reports which had been circulated, of excesses committed by our troops—excesses revolting to every man of common humanity—excesses said to have been committed by our troops upon the unarmed inhabitants of cities of which we had for some time been in peaceful possession. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that Ministers would be able to inform the house that we had not left in the countries beyond the Indus a justly exasperated population. With respect to the treaty with the United States of America, that was a subject upon which the house would look to the Government for explanation, which he was sure the Government would be most anxious to give. (Hear, hear.) He, for one, was ready to admit that, in adjusting our differences with that country, no importance should be attached to a few square miles of disputed territory, more or less. I confess it appears to me, upon the authority of a document, of the authenticity of which there can be no doubt, that all those questions are not so satisfactorily settled as we might at first have been led to believe. The subject upon which I now wish to have an explanation from her Majesty's Government refers to the question of what is commonly called the right of visit. I apprehend that, of all the questions likely to agitate the public mind in the United States, there is not one more calculated to lead to angry feeling than that of the right of visit, and, as there has been some confusion between what is called the right of visit and the right of search, I shall take the liberty of stating my view of each as distinctly as I can. I apprehend the right of visit claimed by this country to be the right of our cruisers to ascertain whether a merchant vessel is justly entitled to the protection of the flag which she may happen to have hoisted on the vessel, being at the time in such a condition as to render her liable to suspicion—first, that she is not entitled to the protection of that flag; and next, that, if she be not entitled to that protection, she is, either under the law of nations, or by the right of treaties, subject to the suspicion and control of other powers. That was the claim put forward by Lord Aberdeen in his communication with the Envoy of the United States, and supported by arguments which I am sure it is unnecessary to repeat in a British House of Commons. (Hear.) It is enough to say that if this right is not to be exercised any vessel may sail unquestioned and uninterrupted through the squadron of cruisers we possess, full of slaves. (Hear, hear.) It is enough to say that the most atrocious buccaneer or pirate might sail unquestioned through the fleets of all the maritime powers in the world if the right in question were denied. But this right is not only denied by the United States, but it is also stated in the document to which I have referred that it has been given up by this country. So monstrous does this assertion appear to me, that I shall take the liberty of referring to the words of the President's message relative to the subject. They are of the following nature:—In enforcement of the laws and treating stipulations of Great Britain, a custom has threatened to grow up on the part of her cruisers of subjecting to visitation ships sailing under the American flag, which, while it seriously involves our maritime rights, would subject to vexation a branch of our trade which was increasing, and which requires the fostering care of the Government; and although Lord Aberdeen, in his correspondence with the American Envoy in London, expressly renounced any right to detain American ships on the high seas, even if crowded with slaves, and limits the British pretensions to a mere claim of visit and inquiry, yet it could not be well discerned by the Executive of the United States how such a visit and inquiry could be made without detention and the consequent interruption of our trade. It was regarded as the right of search presented only in a new form and in different words. That was the view which the President of the United States took of the question, which he treated as

equivalent to the right of search which was at once given up by Lord Aberdeen. The statement of the American President created great excitement among parties who take an interest in the suppression of the slave trade; and the subject is one which calls for an explanation from the Government. I will say for myself at once, that I entertain not the slightest doubt what the answer of our Government will be. I have not the slightest doubt but that they will tell us they have made no concession upon that subject to the Government of the United States. I believe that no British Minister would, or could, make such concession. He would quote to the house the eloquent language of Lord Aberdeen's despatch upon the subject. That language was as follows:—"The undersigned begs to repeat that with American vessels British cruisers have no pretence to interfere. Such vessels must be permitted to enjoy a monopoly of the unshallowed trade; but the British Government will never endure that the fraudulent use of the American flag shall extend impunity to those by whom it is abhorred, and who have entered into solemn treaties for its suppression." (Loud cheers.) He (Mr. Wood) believed that that eloquent passage embodied the feelings of every Englishman on the subject; and he believed that no concession had been made to it by her Majesty's Government. He trusted that the spirit of the regulations hitherto enforced upon the subject would be preserved for the future. He was aware that the instructions to be given to our cruisers were under the directions of Dr. Lushington and Captain Denman—men whose names were a security for the able and effectual discharge of the duty they had undertaken; but he (Mr. C. Wood) hoped that in the new instructions the spirit of the old instructions would be adhered to. He was sure the answer of the Government upon the point would be satisfactory to that house. (Hear.) He could not, however, help saying, that the present state of the question suggested a doubt as to the final settlement of our differences with the United States. But, speaking generally, with regard to our foreign affairs, he was sure the house would receive with satisfaction the statements contained in the speech from the throne, and would join in its congratulations. He confessed, however, that he derived but little satisfaction from the expressions in the speech relative to our internal policy. (Hear, hear.) The house would, no doubt, participate with her Majesty in the sympathy which she expressed for the sufferings of her people. But surely those sufferings were of a nature to call for something more than sympathy. (Hear, hear.) He did expect to find in her Majesty's speech—he did not say the precise nature of the remedies which the Government was about to propose—but he did expect to find in it some indications at least of the measures they intended to bring forward for the purpose of removing that depression of our trade, which had now lasted too long. (Hear.) And when he remembered the censure of which the late Government was the object for introducing great measures which they had not announced in the speech from the throne, he could not help thinking that no such measures were now in contemplation. The hon. gentleman who seconded the address had told them of some symptoms of reviving trade; but no one could be so sanguine as to believe that any great improvement had of late taken place in the condition of our people. (Hear, hear.) If he considered the state of his county (Yorkshire), he need but appeal to the hon. member for Leeds, who this time last year drew a touching picture of the distress that existed. It was no exaggeration to say, that, in the last year, the distress had doubled. He had a return of the money spent in many parts in out-door relief. In Leeds, in 1841, it was £17,000, in 1842 it was £23,000; the number of applications in 1841 was 7300, while in 1842 it was double that amount, being 14,300. (Hear, hear.) If he referred to the member for Lancashire, he would tell the same tale. (Hear, hear.) If he turned to Scotland the same complaint existed there, and, what was still a more convincing proof, the distress had penetrated into the agricultural districts. (Hear, hear.) In such a state of the country were the representatives of the people to sit with folded arms without attempting to legislate? (Hear, hear.) In order to restore the vigour of commerce, they had been promised that measures should be brought forward that would considerably alleviate the distress. (Hear, hear.) No one could doubt what those measures ought to be, namely, measures that would increase the demand for labour, stimulate trade, and improve the condition of the people. At the conclusion of the speech from the throne at the end of last session, such measures were promised; and he must confess that it was with feelings of the greatest disappointment that he found in her Majesty's speech at the opening of the present session no indication that that promise was to be followed up. (Hear, hear.) No sounder principle could be adopted than that of buying in the cheapest market, and that there should be no benefits given to classes. Such was the policy pursued by the Government, and which he had been in hopes of seeing carried out, as the sole means of improving the condition of the people. These principles were adapted to many articles last session, but not to those that materially affected the condition of the people. (Cheers.) With many articles of manufacturing industry and consumption the Government had not attempted to deal; he had hoped to see something done with respect to sugar and corn, but the speech was entirely silent on that point. He knew not that in any article affecting the consumption of food the price had been reduced by the Legislature of last session. (Hear, hear.) Fortunately for the population of this country, the price of wheat was low during the last autumn, but he confessed he did not see how that could any way result from the measure of the right hon. gentleman. He thought the panic and alarm which had existed amongst the agriculturists were the most unfounded panic and alarm, as far at least as the measures of the right honourable gentleman were concerned, that could possibly prevail. For three months after the bill of the right honourable gentleman for regulating the price of wheat passed into a law the price was only three shillings lower, on the average, than when the old law was in operation. It was true that, under the operation of the sliding scale, it all came in at the time of the harvest; but he did not believe that one grain more or one grain less came in in consequence of the change. ("Hear, hear," from the Opposition.) It came in at a different time; it came in paying a different rate of duty; but, so far as the produce and the consumer were concerned, he believed the new law was altogether a dead letter. The price rose up to the end of July to rather more than sixty-four shillings, but the prospect of the early harvest showed that it was impossible to do what had been done in the preceding year—raise the nominal price to 70s. or 80s. by means of fraud. The early harvest rendered it necessary to bring in, in the month of August, no less than two million quarters of corn, and the operation of the law tended as unnaturally to depress the price of corn during the autumn, as it had to raise it previously. He hoped the agricultural members would bear in mind that they, as well as others, were suffering from the operation of the sliding scale. (Hear, hear.) Much had been said about the necessity of giving the new law a fair trial. It seemed to him to have been tried and condemned. No alteration, as far as the consumer and the producer were concerned, had been effected by the new law. Whatever might be the principle upon which future corn-laws should be based—be it protection, be it revenue, or be it a duty for registration only—it must be acceded by all that it was desirable to get rid of the uncertainty which now existed.

(Hear.) He believed that the reduction in the price of agricultural produce was to be attributed entirely to the want of demand. It might be difficult to ascertain the exact falling off in the whole amount of consumption; but he had been told, on good authority, that in the town of Stockport alone the quantity of beasts killed in three months of last year was less by 700 than in the same period of 1841. (Hear.) He had been also told by a high agricultural authority, that, owing to disease and other circumstances, there were not at that time sufficient cattle in the country to supply the ordinary demand. If that was true, it was the interest of all classes to provide a remedy for such a state of things, and the only adequate remedy was the improvement of trade and the employment of the people. He believed that no advantage which even they as landlords could derive from the utmost prohibitory duty could in any way equal that which they would derive from the prosperity of trade and manufactures. He believed that amongst agriculturists themselves this opinion was spreading in every direction. They found that the price of agricultural produce was diminished; they found that a portion of the population who had for years been employed in manufacturing towns was falling back upon agricultural parishes; they found that the surplus labourers had increased, that the poor-rates were becoming increasingly heavy. All this produced a conviction that a change must be effected. Allusion was made in the speech of her Majesty to the deficiency in the revenue. He believed that they were then to a considerable extent suffering the penalty of rejecting, in 1841, the measures which were then proposed by the late Government. (Laughter from the Ministerial benches.) That those measures were sound in principle he believed no member of her Majesty's Government would deny, after the deductions which they made last year, whatever might be the opinion of their supporters. It was impossible to deny those measures were calculated to create a demand for our manufactures abroad, and thereby to improve the condition of our manufacturing population. They were told at the time when these measures were proposed, that all that was necessary was a change of Government; as though, when hon. gentlemen opposite were placed in office, money would be sure to flow into the treasury. He apprehended that the result was far from bearing out such an opinion; that at that time the deficiency was greater than it had ever been. (Hear, hear.) Up to the 10th of October the certified deficiency was two millions and a half. Had it been diminished in the last quarter? (Hear, hear.) He thought not; he thought he might say that the deficiency, up to the 5th of January, was not less than three millions and a half. He sincerely hoped that the receipts from the income-tax would be as great as had been expected by the right hon. gentleman himself, but they must double his own estimate in order to meet the deficiency. He believed the falling off in ordinary sources of income extended to everything except the Post-office. (Hear, hear.) The greatest deficiency was in the Excise, which was not touched by the measure of the right honourable gentleman, and which had usually been considered as the best test of the prosperity of the nation. If they were ever to be relieved from the burden of the income-tax, it could only be by the improvement of the ordinary sources of revenue. He could not but hope that the Government would bring forward some measures for improving the state of commerce. Even the speech of the noble lord encouraged such a hope, for he had expressed a hope that the Government would persevere, not rashly, but steadily and firmly, in the course which they had pursued during the last session. He trusted that, even before that debate was concluded, the right hon. gentleman would not leave them without some assurance that such was his intention. Such an assurance would only be in accordance with the recorded opinions of the right hon. gentleman himself, and of the Government of which he was the head; and he might depend upon it that, whatever the opposition which he might meet with from gentlemen who sat behind him, he would, at least, have the continued support of that (the Opposition) side of the house, in carrying out those measures which were best calculated to improve the condition of the manufacturing population. The condition of the people was one of which the oldest man could scarcely remember a parallel. The depression was similar to that which prevailed when Mr. Huskisson, in 1825, brought forward his measures for the relaxation of the then commercial tariff. Under that relaxation trade revived. He believed that from the application of similar remedies to the whole of our imports, and especially to the great articles of consumption, they might look for a revival of trade, an increase of revenue, and an improvement in the moral and social condition of the whole population. (Cheers.)

Sir R. PEEL said he was happy to infer, from the general tone and tenor of the speech of the honourable gentleman, and the approbation with which that speech was received from those who generally concurred with him in opinion, that there was every prospect that they would be able to present to her Majesty an unanimous address in answer to the speech. He could not have heard the declaration of the honourable gentleman, with reference to the foreign policy of her Majesty's Government, without great satisfaction, because it appeared to him to imply entire and almost unqualified approbation of the policy which her Majesty's Government had pursued with respect to foreign affairs. (Hear, hear.) The only reservation which the honourable gentleman had made was with respect to the course pursued to the westward of the Indus, conceiving, as he did, that, as there was a notice on the books of the house with respect to that particular subject, there would be a more fitting opportunity afforded of expressing his opinion. The hon. gentleman referred particularly to the treaty which this country had concluded with the United States. The hon. gentleman said, with respect to the differences referred to in the speech from the throne—namely, those between the State of Maine and the United States—that a few miles more or less of territory was of little importance, compared with the adjustment of differences between two mighty countries, which had continued for half a century, and which were now amicably settled. He rejoiced to hear from the hon. gentleman his frank admissions in respect to the policy pursued towards the United States, as far as the question of boundary was concerned. Considering the uncertainty which prevailed as to the letter of the treaty, the ignorance of the geography of the country which prevailed at the time—considering also how impossible it was to execute the treaty, the division made giving one-half to the United States and the other half to this country, their military stations being preserved, the adjustment of the questions upon the whole being more favourable than that which was given to them on a former period, he felt confident he would be able to prove satisfactorily to the house that they had acted consistently with sound feeling—consistently with the interests of the country in ratifying that convention. (Cheers.) He knew there were parties who tried to obstruct the amicable settlement of the question: there were those who blamed Mr. Webster as well as Lord Ashburton, because he had seceded from the pretensions put forward by the United States, because he saw there was no other mode of bringing the question to an amicable settlement. (Hear, hear.) He was taunted with selling his country. Here it was the Ashburton capitulation, there it was the Webster capitulation; but, God be thanked, there were sufficient moderate and good men who knew that a relinquishment of extreme pretensions on each side might be compatible with the authority of

each, and that the question of dispute was nothing compared with the establishment of an amicable union between two great people of kindred origin and kindred language, and whose interests were as deeply interwoven as their origin. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) It was a painful duty to him to refer to the message of the President of the United States, but he sincerely and honestly believed that it was necessary that a good understanding between the United States and this country should prevail on the subject of the right of visit. (Hear, hear.) That message did not give a good account of the nature of the negotiation which had taken place upon the subject. (Hear, hear, hear.) The right of search was a belligerent right, or, if it existed in a time of peace, it was a right given and conceded by one country to another. The right of visit was different from the right of search. The right of visit was merely a power to enable us to ascertain if a vessel, bearing the American flag, was a *bona fide* American vessel. If they knew that a *bona fide* American vessel, fitted up with American money, and commanded by an American, had on board a cargo of human beings, intended to be sold as slaves, they were bound to allow such a vessel to pass. But then this country had a right to know that such a vessel was really what she was represented to be. The principle upon which the right of visit was contended for was admirably laid down by his noble friend (Lord Aberdeen), in his despatch dated the 20th of December, 1841, the object of which was to declare that the object of the right of visit was to ascertain if the vessel with American colours was what she represented herself to be. Now, he (Sir Robert Peel) could not see, considering how America was surrounded, how her revenue or her commerce could be safe unless the right of visit were maintained. (Hear, hear.) But when he recollects that in the seas in the neighbourhood of the American coast the Government of the United States did expect vessels to submit to the right of visit, he was really astonished to see the objection urged against the right of visit claimed by this country. Such being the state of the case upon this question, it was his duty to declare, in the face of the public, his regret at that part of the President's message relating to the right of search. (Hear, hear.) The principle of this right of search—not the belligerent right, but that conventional right, the object of which was to prevent the traffic in slaves—was proposed in 1824 by Mr. Rush, on the part of America, and acceded to by Mr. Huskisson. (Hear, hear.) It was now, however, his duty to declare, in the face of the House of Commons, that the Government of this country had made no concession to America, but had declared their determination to abide by the principles laid down in Lord Aberdeen's despatch, and by those principles they were determined to adhere. (Hear.) Since the President's message had appeared, the Government of this country had taken means to communicate with the Government of America on the subject, and he trusted that the result of that communication would lead to a settlement of the differences which existed respecting it. (Hear.) He did not recollect any other question in respect to the foreign policy of the country that had been touched upon by the hon. gentleman. The hon. gentleman commented upon the state of the revenue. He was ready to admit that the revenue was in anything but a satisfactory state, and, if a balance-sheet were called for, it would support the statement of the hon. gentleman on this subject in the fullest manner. But then there could be nothing more unfair than to estimate the future state of the revenue from its present appearance. He last year admitted the deficiency in the revenue, but he proposed to improve it by raising funds through a new channel. (Hear.) He proposed to remit portions of the import duties, and, out of eleven hundred articles, he did, in fact, remit the duties on 700. The reduction of these duties commenced, in some instances, in July last, and in others in October, and the taxes imposed to meet these deficiencies had not yet been collected. It was not fair, therefore, to take the present state of the revenue as a proof that hereafter it would present the same appearance. He candidly admitted that the decrease in the excise was a proof that there had been a diminution of the powers of consumption of the people. There undoubtedly was reduction in the excise, particularly in the article spirits; but that must not be deemed symptomatic of distress—much of it, he believed, was occasioned by improved habits of temperance in this country as well as in Ireland. He, however, did not seek to be too sanguine in his conclusion. There had been occasioned difficulties also by the pouring in of corn. There had been parties who anticipated an unfavourable harvest. He begged the farmers not to hold back on that account: though right in his prediction, he was not successful in his advice. The farmers did hold back. There was a favourable harvest, and hence followed an increased flowing into the markets of corn. There were great and unfavourable speculations; and he feared there always must be, when they remembered the uncertainty of seasons in this country. He, however, was not, but those who had predicted unfavourable harvests were, answerable for those consequences. (Hear, hear.) He thought the reduction in the revenue under the head of the item malt was not altogether attributable to the existing distress. The return of the quantity of malt was 9,010,000 bushels. The reduction in the amount of the spirit duty was not to be taken as evidence of the distress of the country, for they might depend upon it that temperance was progressing here as well as in Ireland. But the great reduction in the excise under the head of malt was partly to be attributed to the unfavourable harvest in 1841. He was not contending against the existence of distress, the prevalence of which he had already admitted, but he wished to caution the House of Commons against drawing too disheartening an inference, or taking too gloomy a view of our prospects. (Hear, hear.) At any rate, hon. gentlemen opposite could not deny this, that there had been a great reduction in prices. (Hear, hear.) They said that the corn-law had nothing to do with this; that it had not checked speculation; and that, in fact, whatever benefits were enjoyed were attributable to the ample produce of the harvest. Why, he remembered that the language of hon. gentlemen opposite, in June and July, was, that the harvest would be unfavourable. They declared that they had the very best information that the harvest in 1842 would be no better than the one which preceded it. He, however, had ventured to express a different opinion, and had cautioned the holders of corn against trusting to these doctrines. They did hold back their corn, and they had to blame not him but hon. gentlemen opposite for the consequence. There must be at all times uncertainty in speculating in an article the production of which was dependent upon the season; and hon. gentlemen were fairly chargeable with the evil consequences which followed from their expressed opinions, if corn poured in at that period at which, from the uncertainty of the harvest, it was always likely to do. But certainly those parties who did keep their corn back had done so contrary to his admonition. (Hear, hear.) With respect to the excise, he would show in the article of malt the quantity which had paid duty in the last quarter of 1842 as compared with the similar quarter in 1841. In the quarter ending October, 1841, the quantity of malt from barley, the produce of the crop of that year, was 376,000 bushels. In the October quarter, 1842, the number of bushels was 604,000. For the quarter ending January, 1842, the number was 8,951,000; and for that ending January, 1843, the number was 10,561,000; showing an excess in the last



quarter of 1,834,000. Now that was evidence that the consumption had increased, and gave grounds for believing that the deficiency in the excise was in a great measure to be attributed to the former unproductive harvest. The hon. gentleman had asked him what further measures he was prepared to carry out that session in reference to the commerce of the country. He (Sir R. Peel) had stated last year the general principles upon which he was prepared and determined to act—that he was ready to give as free a scope as possible to the commercial energies of the country. (Hear, hear.) Such was the principle upon which he had declared himself prepared to act, but, when he had laid that principle down, he had said that the many complicated interests at stake should be borne in mind when, in a country like this, they proposed to make large alterations in the laws which affected those interests. They had made extensive changes in the code which, at a former period, had regulated the commerce of this country. If he had been disposed to make further alterations he would have at once proposed them. He had not led the hon. gentleman to expect that he would go on year after year making changes. It would be better, as regarded the interests of commerce, to make all the changes in one year than to proceed upon a system of secret reservation with respect to further alterations. Whatever alterations took place were in accordance with those principles in the truth of which he still believed, and from none of which was he disposed to recede. (Cheers.) He had stated last year that protection had hitherto been the rule in the commercial system of this country, and said then, as he did now, that that rule, and the interests created under it, should not be lost sight of, lest, in acting on those benevolent principles which influenced them, they should, in reference to the interests in question, produce results far from satisfactory. It was therefore not his intention to propose at present further extensive changes in the commercial code of this country. But wherever he did make any alteration it would be in accordance with the principle he had laid down. He, however, as he already stated, had not led the hon. gentleman to expect any further alterations this session. (Hear, hear.) He would not then enter upon a vindication of the Corn-bill. An opportunity would no doubt be hereafter afforded him of doing so by some hon. gentleman opposed to his views on that question. Experience, however, had shown him that in no one of the views he had entertained on that subject had he been mistaken. With respect to the averages it was said that the introduction of the new towns would have the effect of lowering the price by five shillings; and, consequently, raising the duty. Now, it had had no such effect. The fact was, the law had not had a sufficient trial to warrant its abrogation. The objections raised by the hon. gentleman to-night did not at all apply. When he (Sir R. Peel) introduced the income-tax he had foretold that there would be such a reduction in the price of the necessities of life as would recompense those assessed under the income-tax to the amount of their contributions under it, and his predictions had been verified. ("No, no," from the Opposition.) The result had been such as to enable parties to equalize their income and expenditure by the reduction in the cost of the necessities of life. (No, no.) Well, there would be other opportunities of discussing that matter. He should now merely say that having been called on by the hon. gentleman opposite to state his intentions with respect to further commercial alterations, he thought it right to affirm that her Majesty's Government had not in contemplation any such alterations. (Loud cheers.)

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said, that the speech from the throne had been wisely framed to avoid any difference of opinion, or the expression of dissent, by a vote on the first night of the session. He expressed his concurrence in one topic of the address, namely, that which referred to the success of our arms in China, and the satisfactory conclusion of a treaty with the Emperor. He agreed with the hon. gentleman who seconded the address as to the energy and promptitude with which the plan of operations had been followed up by her Majesty's ministers. If there had been any insinuation against the policy or arrangements of their predecessors, he would have been prepared to vindicate that policy and those arrangements which her Majesty's ministers had adopted; but, as no such insinuation had been made, he was left on that topic nothing more to say than that he was willing to bear testimony to the promptitude and decision with which that war was drawn to an honourable conclusion. (Hear, hear.) There was one other topic, with reference to which the right hon. gentleman opposite had given notice of a vote of thanks to the Governor-General of India and the army engaged in the operations to the west of the Indus. These operations undoubtedly did great honour to the military talent of General Pollock, General Nott, and General Sale. But when the right hon. gentleman moved those thanks to the Governor-General and the army, there were two topics which would have to be discussed. One was whether or not our victorious troops had stained the glory of their triumph by the spirit of revenge and retaliation. (Hear, hear.) That house would regret that they should have tarnished the brilliancy of their victories by the slaughter of innocent men, women, and children—by, in fact, the violation of that principle of humanity which had governed all nations in all ages. (Cheers.) The second topic related to the part which, it was rumoured, the Governor-General had taken previous to the commencement of the second series of operations in Afghanistan. The rumour was that the Governor-General had directed the retreat of the army from beyond the Indus. The rumour on that point was somewhat vague. It was not clearly understood whether or not the second advance was ordered by the Governor-General, or whether he had left it to the generals in command of the army to decide upon it. That, however, would have to be clearly understood. He hoped, therefore, information would be given by the right hon. gentleman as to the Governor-General's connection with the assembling and operations of our troops in Afghanistan; and, if that information proved satisfactory, he (Lord John Russell) would not refuse him the thanks to which he was entitled. (Hear, hear.) But even on that first day of the session he (Lord John Russell) could not help alluding to two remarkable proclamations issued by the Governor-General. The first of these contained a violent attack on the intentions and the policy of the Governor-General's predecessor. It seemed to have been forgotten by the noble lord that it had been the intention, as avowed by Lord Glenelg, when introducing the India Bill, to remove the government of India as far as possible from the control of parties in this country; but the commencement of the first of these proclamations contained such a misrepresentation of the conduct of an antagonist as could not be expected in the heat of a debate in either house of Parliament. In that proclamation I find the most extraordinary, and to me the most shocking, doctrines laid down with regard to Afghanistan—to leave Afghanistan to the disorder and anarchy which its crimes deserved. If it was the policy of the executive Government—if it was thought right to evacuate Afghanistan—if it was thought that the occupation of that country was too great a drain on the resources of India—if, after our successes had so dispirited the enemies of the British name, it was deemed too great a sacrifice to establish a government there such as Lord Auckland contemplated, in such a case the policy of the Governor-General should not have been that of mere malignant revenge—(Hear, hear), but should have been to leave Afghanistan in the hands of

some chief capable of acquiring the confidence of the people of that country, and of establishing peace and order there, favourable to relations of peace with India, and favourable to the development of industry in that country. (Hear, hear.) The noble lord who moved, and the hon. gentleman who seconded, the address spoke of introducing Christianity into China. Much as I desire to witness the introduction of Christianity into China, I cannot approve of an attempt to do so inconsistent with the respect due to the feelings of that people—of any attempt savouring of violence. Sir, I need not say anything with respect to the original expedition to Afghanistan. Whenever it shall be discussed, I shall not fear to enter into the discussion, or shrink from any responsibility which may belong to me from the proceedings of Lord Auckland. The right hon. gentleman has answered my hon. friend with regard to another transaction, the treaty made by Lord Ashburton. I think the right hon. gentleman has somewhat exaggerated the statement of satisfaction which fell from my right hon. friend. With respect to the necessity of maintaining peace between the two countries, I am sure that there will be no difference of opinion in this house and this country. (Hear, hear.) Of Lord Ashburton's talents, of his long experience and knowledge of the disputes between this country and America, no one can doubt. But it so happened that in the year 1838, Lord Ashburton, after giving notice two days previously in the other house of Parliament, gave a very elaborate opinion with respect not only to the colonies in general, but with respect to Canada in particular. He stated that his opinion was that no wise man could expect that Canada could belong to this country more than twenty years, and that for his part, if there was any wish on the part of the Canadians for a separation from this country, he would be perfectly ready to forward that separation. Now, sir, I happen entirely to differ with that opinion. I do not believe that to be the opinion of the noble lord the Secretary for the Colonies, nor do I think it is the opinion of the Prime Minister. But, sir, there is another view in which this subject may be regarded, and it is a point of view which gave the people of this country so much satisfaction on hearing the conclusion of the agreement. The boundary question was not greatly studied in this country: very few people knew exactly the boundary claimed by either party, or the reasons upon which it was claimed, or the advantages likely to be derived from it by the country; but the people of this country trusted that it would cement the friendship and perpetuate peace between England and the United States. Now, in that point of view it was most desirable that, with respect to the very question on which you could have an understanding or agreement, there should be a plain and definite agreement. But has that been the case? What is the case now? You have the President of the United States making to Congress, to the people of America, and to the people of all Europe, the announcement that there is an agreement and a treaty with England which bears a certain interpretation. You have the right hon. baronet the Prime Minister of this country declaring that it bears no such interpretation. Why, sir, can we say every question is completely settled, that there is a complete understanding on all questions so long as this is the case? I think with respect to this question, as with respect to some others, that rather too much hurry was evinced to say "we have concluded a treaty with America—everything is settled," when in fact the understanding on one side is different from that entertained by the other, and there is no stability whatever with regard to the treaty. Sir, with respect to this treaty, which has been entered into by the Minister of the Crown, and which has been ratified by them, I think the House of Commons might safely abstain from giving any formal opinion on the subject. I do not think, if the honour of this country is not compromised—if the interests of the country are not placed in any imminent jeopardy, that the House of Commons is required to express any opinion on the treaty entered into by the authority of the Crown. Sir, the remainder of the speech then refers to the domestic state of the country. The subject has been fully entered into by my hon. friend near me, and as it will be discussed on several other occasions, I need not more particularly allude to it. I cannot believe, from the declarations that have been made in the recess—very strange declarations I must say—I say, I cannot believe that it is intended to maintain the corn-law; and I observe there has been a sort of feeling that the corn-laws could not be defended in conjunction with the principles of the tariff. Important as I think the principles are on which the tariff is founded, I do not think any of the articles of the tariff are equal in point of importance to the article of corn—certainly not equal to the articles of corn and sugar taken together. (Cheers.) Sir, in allusion to the revenue, the speech from the Crown declares that when the duties laid on last year shall come into operation, the revenue will be found sufficient to provide for the expenditure. I am glad to hear upon such an authority a declaration of that nature; but I must say that the reasons which induced me last year to give my vote in every stage against the reading of the bill for the imposition of an income and property tax have been strengthened by the experience which we have had. (Hear, hear.) I beg pardon of the house for trespassing so long on its attention—(Hear, hear)—but there is one part of the speech from the throne to which I wish to allude, and it is, perhaps, the only one with respect to which I was not satisfied—I allude to that part which relates to the disturbances in the manufacturing districts. There is no doubt that there were considerable disturbances—that there were violations of the public peace; but I think that the disturbances which took place arose from the circumstance that the working people thought they were not sufficiently paid, and that the conduct of the working people in those districts were worthy of very much commendation. (Hear, hear.) In a population like Great Britain there must always be found demagogues, but the great advance in the knowledge and education of the people since the conclusion of the war would materially alter the opinions of the public. He would not then enter into further particulars, but he did trust that at an early period Parliament would enter into a full inquiry, a full consideration of the cause of distress which now existed in the country. (Hear.) He did not wish for an inquiry of a partial nature, he wanted a searching investigation. (Hear.) And if the evil was traced to laws which affected our interchange of goods with other countries, he hoped they would soon be altered. (Hear.) He hoped the character of the British people would be maintained, and that we should still be a happy and flourishing nation. (Hear.)

Sir CHARLES NAPIER rose to address the house, but the noise occasioned by members leaving prevented his observations being heard in the gallery.

Mr. WALLACE said he was altogether dissatisfied with the speech which had been read to them in the name of the Sovereign. He did not believe it was her Majesty's, but that of her advisers. (Hear, hear.) The distress—the alarming distress of the country—was treated with indifference. The people were distressed, but they acted with loyalty to the throne. It expressed no commiseration, held out no hope; and he was confident it would bring the present Government into greater disrepute than any ministry had ever before experienced. (Hear.)

Lord STANLEY said he confessed when he recollects the compliments which the noble lord paid them on that side of the house, at the commencement of his speech, on the manner in

which the topics in the speech from the throne had been selected and handled, and when he heard the noble lord proceed to address the house in the way which he did, he could not help thinking that it would have been a more fair and a more manly course (especially after the speech of his right hon. friend) for the noble lord to have abstained from introducing topics which he must have an ample opportunity of discussing on a more fitting occasion; and when it was not the intention of the noble lord to propose an amendment with regard either to the Governor-General of India, or the Government of which his right hon. friend was the head, he should have abstained from discussing the policy of the late or present Government in the general manner which he did. The motion of which his right hon. friend had given notice had not so wide a scope as the noble lord appeared to imagine. The object of it was only to thank the Indian army for the skill, and valour, and energy displayed by them in carrying to a successful termination a war which, when they came into office, bore, to say the least of it, a most unpromising aspect. (Cheers from the Ministerial side.) He would at once admit, that it was the intention of her Majesty's Government by that motion to claim for the Government—to claim for the Governor-General—the merit of having mainly contributed to that great success; and the noble lord opposite would have an opportunity of denying his noble friend's claim. The house would have an opportunity of looking at these papers, which the noble lord, who expressed a desire for them, should have in the amplest detail; and after a careful perusal of those documents, and looking at the time the present Governor-General arrived in India, and the triumphant termination of the war, when the whole of the case was put before them, and that they were in a position to judge of the merits, and not on the mere partial consideration of an expression which the noble lord appeared to think was in doubtful taste, then he would not fear even the verdict of the noble lord himself, and most certainly he had no dread as to the verdict which the house and the country would return in reference to the amount of thanks to which the Indian Government was entitled. The noble lord told them that, when they withdrew from Afghanistan, they should not have left the whole country in a state of anarchy behind them; that they should have established some system or elected some sovereign to reign in security amidst the discordant elements by which he must have felt himself surrounded. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.) This was the policy of the noble lord in the case of Shah Soojah, who was to reign, as it was stated, not by the power of Great Britain, but in the affections and loyalty of the people. (Cheers and laughter.) This was the circumstance which had led to all the tumult, bloodshed, and anarchy in that disturbed country, which had been fostered and encouraged by the invasion of the late Government, and which had induced the present Governor-General to withdraw within the natural limits of India. (Hear, hear.) The noble lord had alluded to certain reports about excesses having been committed in India, and the soldiery having aggravated the horrors of war. Now he (Lord Stanley) could not say how far this was the case. It was, perhaps, true that the passions of the soldiers had been excited by the scenes with which they were surrounded, and the recollections of the horrors to which they were exposed, and that in this state of excitement they had committed some excesses. (Hear, hear.) He would not then enter into a discussion of the question concerning the gates of the temple which his noble friend had restored to India; but he felt bound to state that in the act of bringing back to India the memento of a former conquest, nothing could be farther from his mind than a wish to invest the proceedings with anything like a violation of religious scruples. The noble lord had also referred to the Ashburton treaty, and said that although a very good settlement had taken place, yet he thought a better might have been effected. (Hear, hear.) But if this were such an easy task, why, he would ask, had not the noble lord done so ten years ago? (Ministerial cheers.) What had the noble lord the member for the city of London, and the other noble lord the late Secretary for Foreign Affairs, been about, that up to the period of quitting office they had never attempted to bring the matter to a favourable issue? With regard to the treaty itself the noble lord admitted that the river was the natural boundary, and this had been taken as the guide in the settlement which had taken place. The small tract of land between the two rivers in dispute was entirely occupied by French settlers, and was of no service whatever for the purpose of cultivation. The noble lord, however, told them that it was important as a great military station, but he (Lord Stanley) had never heard this opinion from any military man; on the contrary, he had always heard it treated as utterly valueless for either cultivation or defence. He would not on that occasion follow the noble lord into a discussion of the position in which the question of the corn-laws now stood; but yet he could not refrain from making an observation with regard to it. First of all he stated, that the corn-law was not to be defended by her Majesty's Government during the present session; and next, he informed them that the question was to be put on such a footing as would secure it from agitation. The noble lord had also referred to the subject of the income-tax, and had stated, that, great as had been his objections to this measure last year, his subsequent experience had more than realized his worst anticipations. The house would observe, that the noble lord had not considered it convenient to enter on the question of the deficiency in the revenue (which, after all, was the only reason that had induced her Majesty's Government to recommend the imposition of this tax), but had confined himself to mere attacks against the workings of the measure, which was perhaps more objectionable than any other mode of direct taxation, and instead of giving any positive authority for the statements he had made, he could only say that "he was told this by so and so, and had heard that from such and such a one," without giving the slightest authority on which the house could rely. (Oh, oh, and hear, hear.) These, he believed, were all the topics to which the noble lord had adverted; and he regretted exceedingly that he had been compelled to follow him at such length on an occasion when the discussion could not be brought to any serviceable issue—for it was now generally understood that they were about to come to a unanimous vote on the question of the address. He thanked the house for the attentive manner in which it had listened to his observations, and he hoped that their decision should be perfectly unanimous. (Cheer.)

Lord PALMERSTON thought it rather an unreasonable expectation on the part of a Minister of the Crown, that a speech embracing so many topics of great and powerful interest, should not only be received with an unanimous vote, but also escape observation and remark. (Hear, hear.) He thought the noble lord should have refrained from expressing any dissatisfaction with the difference of opinion that had been elicited in the course of the discussion. It was quite impossible that in the course of one short night they could go into a full discussion and consideration of the various topics embraced in the speech from the throne; but, as the noble lord had expressed an anxiety for such an occurrence, he (Lord Palmerston) thought it highly probable that an opportunity would occur before long, when the noble lord might be fully gratified. ("Hear," from the Opposition.) He should not, therefore, find it necessary to follow the noble lord on the present occasion into the particular details of the

Ashburton treaty, or of the other subject which he had mooted. He (Lord Palmerston) meant no disrespect to Lord Ashburton. He had the greatest respect for that noble lord's talents and high character; but, from circumstances connected with Lord Ashburton's family, his lordship was not the best fitted to carry out those negotiations. Entertaining the opinions which the noble lord did on colonial questions, and connected as he was with the country with which he was adversely to maintain the interests of this country, he was not the person that ought to have been selected for an appointment imposing on him duties which he was not likely to perform with credit to himself or advantage to his country. With respect to China, he cordially concurred in the congratulations which the address proposed to convey on the happy termination of hostilities with that country. (Hear, hear.) As to India, every man must rejoice that the operations undertaken to vindicate the honour of the British arms had been triumphant. He doubted whether thanks were to be given to Lord Ellenborough for his successes in India. With regard to other topics, such as our relations with foreign states, he (Lord P.) certainly adverted with great satisfaction. He particularly alluded to the relations between this Government and Russia continuing to be on so amicable a footing, and to the confidence existing between the two Governments. He also looked with satisfaction on the interference of these two great powers to put a stop to the unfortunate dispute between Turkey and Persia. With regard to Syria, he must say that the peace of Europe stood in very little danger of being interrupted, when the chief question which occupied the attention of the great powers was whether the Maronites or Druses should be ruled by independent chiefs, or by indirect authority from Turkey or Russia. Last year they were told that they had left Syria in a state of anarchy—that, instead of having tranquillized that country, they only left things worse than they found them. But whereas, before the treaty of July, 1841, the state of affairs in Syria threatened every day to involve the powers of Europe in war, now the only great source of anxiety of the Cabinets of Europe were certain regulations respecting the internal government of that country. With regard to our domestic affairs, he had hoped that in the speech from the throne clear indications would have been given of what the intentions of the Government were with regard to certain matters which excited so deep an interest in the country: he meant the trading interests generally, but particularly the trade in corn. Before sitting down he wished to know if the cruisers engaged against the slavers by the British Government were to be reduced in number by one half, as had been recently asserted in the French Chambers by Monsieur Guizot.

Sir R. PEEL regretted that the rules of the house prevented his being able to defend his noble friend, the Governor-General of India, as the subject, having been introduced in an early part of the evening, was considered as dropped, and he could not bring it on anew without a violation of the rules of the house. With respect to the questions of the noble lord, there was some mistake in the statement to which they referred.

Sir R. H. INGLIS then addressed the house, denouncing the proclamation of the Governor-General. He believed that no Mussulman governor would ever have shown so much respect for idolatry as the Governor-General had done, nor so little regard to his own true faith. (Hear, hear.) Lord Ellenborough was the last person from whom he should have expected such a proclamation to issue, as, from a previous order to the clergy of India, he appeared to have a due sense of the importance of his religious obligations. He trusted that they should not have any more of such a defence as that which had been attempted to be made by the noble Secretary of State. He wished distinctly to know whether the Governor-General who had issued that proclamation had or had not the confidence of the Government. (Opposition cheers.) It should be borne in mind that he ruled over a Mussulman as well as over a Hindoo population, and that proclamation could not but be ill received by the Mahomedan population. (Cheers.) The Governor-General had made it a religious question—(Opposition cheers)—by calling on the princes to receive these gates as a trophy of victory, and as a proof that the wrongs of 800 years had been avenged. (Opposition cheers.) He would not go into the question of the policy of the Afghan war, but the proclamation of the Governor-General having been, as he thought, very properly alluded to, he could not forbear from giving expression to the feelings which he, in common with, he believed, a large part of the community, entertained on the subject.

Mr. VILLIERS would not enter into the discussion of any questions of foreign policy, but he could not avoid remarking upon the utter disregard of the sufferings of the people manifested by the framers of the speech, and by those who had addressed the house in support of the Government. He could not but imagine, from the way in which the subject had been treated, but that the right hon. baronet did not really believe in the existence of the distress. He could hardly believe that such ignorance of the real state of the country could have been displayed. The right hon. baronet, in his speeches, had treated the sufferings of the people as temporary, and had given the house to understand that no remedies were contemplated. The right hon. baronet had last year admitted the truth of free-trade principles, and this year he had declared that he would not carry them out. The people considered the restrictions on commerce as the cause of their distress; and he was convinced that a total abolition of the laws restricting the importation of food would remedy it, and yet they were told that that remedy was to be refused to them. The people would not be content with mere expression of barren sympathy for their sufferings: they demanded that something should be done to alleviate them. The hon. friend the member for Stockport, by almost all the boroughs in Scotland, showed the progress this question was making. The hon. member for Stockport was identified with the question of free trade, and he had received honours in Scotland which had been refused in many instances to men of high rank and great influence. The right hon. baronet had referred to the state of the savings' banks: the fallacy of that argument had been exposed over again, and yet the right hon. baronet continued to repeat it. The proprietary classes were protected, but the labour of the working classes was not protected. They heard, on the authority of a learned doctor of Oxford, that there were ten millions of human beings in England who did not taste wheat bread, but subsisted on oats, and rejoiced in potatoes; and yet, with such a state of things existing, they were told that the law worked well. The real question was, were the people underfed or were they not, and to that question the country expected an answer from her Majesty's Government.

Lord Howick agreed with the hon. member for Wolverhampton in deplored that no allusion had been made to any measures to be proposed by the Government for the relief of the existing distress. He considered the state of the country required the immediate attention of Parliament, and he had determined to give notice of a motion on the subject. We ought to look our difficulties fully and fairly in the face, in order to endeavour to devise some means to overcome them. He should wish the house to come to some specific vote on the question, as he was convinced that some specific plan for its relief ought to be adopted, and that it ought not to be left merely to the operation of time. Another hon. member had, however, given notice of a motion on the same subject, and, if the question were not fully

gone into on the discussion of that motion, he (Lord Howick) would call the attention of the house more specifically to the subject. (Cheers.) With regard to our foreign policy generally, he begged to express his entire concurrence in all that had fallen from his friend the member for Halifax. With reference to Indian affairs, he thought that his noble friend opposite had found fault, without sufficient reason, with the course taken by his noble friend the member for London, in animadverting on the conduct of the Governor-General during the course of the present debate. In his opinion it would be much more unfair both to the Governor-General, and the Government, to have waited until the vote of thanks should have been proposed to demand those explanations, which he hoped would be given, and thus deteriorate from that vote, the value of which was so much enhanced by unanimity. There were many parts of the conduct of the Governor-General of India which required the fullest explanation, and he must have that explanation before he could concur in any vote of thanks. (Hear.) He considered the noble lord opposite had hardly dealt fairly by his noble friend in animadverting upon what had fallen from him relative to the Governor-General's proclamation on evacuating Afghanistan. His noble friend had justly animadverted upon the tone of exultation and delight in which the Governor-General in that proclamation had alluded to the anarchy existing in Afghanistan. It seemed almost as if he were desirous of having it inferred that his measures had been framed with a view to produce anarchy in the country. (Hear.) Before he could concur in any vote of thanks, he should like to have some explanations as to the excesses alleged to have been perpetrated by the troops. The noble lord had admitted and lamented these excesses committed by some of the troops and the camp followers; but he (Lord Howick) would like to know if they had not been excited to the commission of these excesses by their superiors? Had no example been set by those high in authority? He should wish to know who it was that had ordered the destruction of the Bazaar of Cabul? He trusted that some satisfactory explanation would be given of the course pursued by those in authority on the occasion to which he had alluded. (Cheers.)

Mr. HUME expressed his extreme gratification at the conclusion of the treaty with America, and, although he had disapproved of the appointment of Lord Ashburton in the first instance, yet he must now retract his opinion, for the noble lord had, in the conducting these negotiations, exhibited great temper, judgment, and conciliation, and he had been met by Mr. Webster in a kindred spirit. We were in a better condition to settle the Oregon boundary question in consequence of having settled the other boundary question, owing to the labours of Lord Ashburton. He regretted that no hopes were held out of the completion of a treaty of commerce between England and America, as he was convinced the increased commercial intercourse would be for the advantage of both countries. (Cheers.) He was rejoiced at the satisfactory termination of our differences with China; but he charged the Government to exercise the greatest circumspection in the appointment of our consular agents in that country. With regard to the termination of the war in Afghanistan, although he approved of the policy of evacuating that country, yet he could not but regret the conduct of the troops in that country. They had left a character in that country which nothing could efface. He should like to know who it was that had ordered the destruction of the Bazaar of Cabul. That was one of the most wanton acts of barbarity that had ever been perpetrated. The Goths had never been guilty of such a wanton act of spoliation and barbarity. (Cheers.) The right hon. baronet had proposed no measures for the relief of the distress of the country. The country was suffering from the pressure of taxation which it was unable to bear. (Hear, hear.) If the corn-laws were to be abolished, there would be immediately a revival of commercial prosperity. What was the case at the present moment? The Bank of England had 12,000,000*l.* of bullion which it was unable to get rid of. The circumstance and the cause were unparalleled in the history of this country. The cause was, that our merchants could not send any article of manufacture abroad, because they were obliged to say, send us no coffee, sugar, or wine, or other articles, but send us hard cash. (Hear.) He had heard the right hon. baronet opposite say that the policy of her Majesty's Government was to give employment to the people. But what had he done? He now told them there was to be from him no relief; there was to be no alteration in the corn-law. He (Mr. Hume) was not one of those who thought that by an alteration in the law corn would be cheaper. The alteration would only put us on an equal footing with other countries. Was he not warranted in calling on the right hon. baronet to consider the injustice to which he was a party? Indeed, he (Mr. Hume) had been foolish enough to expect that the right hon. baronet would effect for the country all that it desired, although he had been told by those around him that he was depending on a reed. Yet, recollecting the principles which he heard the right hon. baronet last year avow as First Minister of the Crown, he felt strong confidence that he would not now stultify himself. If he were not able to carry out his avowed principles he ought to resign. He (Mr. Hume) would be glad to see the man on the opposite side of the house who could take the right hon. baronet's place. The right hon. baronet was bound to act on his principles. The people were dying of want, and the distress under which they were suffering was produced by the corn-law. He appealed to the right hon. baronet to apply his principle to that law. The country gentlemen owed it to themselves to look for further changes. What relief, under the present state of things, could they expect from low rents and low prices? Not only would rents continue low from the improbability of prices rising, but the charges the land had to meet would continue in some instances the same, and in others to increase. The poor-rates would increase—the clergy would have to be provided for—the income-tax would have to be met, and the mortgages would have to be paid. He (Mr. Hume) deprecated the finality doctrine of the right hon. baronet; and, if the country were satisfied with it, it was more resigned to its condition than he thought it likely to be. (Cheers.)

Mr. FERRAND said he was of opinion that, if protection were afforded for other interests, it should be also extended to those of the labourer; but protection could not be afforded to the labourer unless machinery were taxed. The right hon. baronet at the head of her Majesty's Government was cheered on last year by honourable gentlemen opposite when introducing those measures which they were all told were to benefit the community. Had those measures conferred the promised benefit? Those hon. gentlemen who had cheered them on now came forward with some degree of ingratitudo to announce their failure. Did the country express itself satisfied with the opinions of those hon. gentlemen opposite? Had they tried the north of England? They had indeed shut their doors against the masses, and the majority of their audiences were composed of women, who were excited by the poetic outflowing of the hon. member for Bolton. Those who differed from the managers of those meetings were bundled out of the windows. In London there were two or three humble men who, at those meetings of the Corn-law League, wished to show that the corn-laws were not injurious to them, but that their sufferings were chargeable to the robbery and injustice of their masters. How were they treated? (Laughter.) Yes, hon. gentlemen might laugh. Would they meet him in any town in the north of England?

When hon. gentlemen on the opposite side of the house gave notice of their intention to bring on the question of the corn-laws, he would be ready to meet them, and he would state some facts that would cover the League with confusion, and show them up to the country in their true colours.

Mr. EWART said he did not know what the hon. gentleman meant by his threat. Did he mean to call for a renewal of those laws which had been passed by Mr. Pitt, in 1799, and which were aimed at, and intended to put down, the Corresponding Society? He did not think the Government would join in the censures bestowed upon the master manufacturers. The hon. gentleman admitted the misery of the people, but he denied the cause of it. He owned he was disappointed at the omissions in the speech from the throne. He regretted to find there was no opening to be made to admit cheap food. Had the right hon. baronet given any hope in respect to an improvement in the condition of the country? None. He did not think there was any great chance that the negotiations for a treaty with the Brazils would be successful, and the opening which had been made with China could only be advantageous in the event of the duty on tea being reduced from 2*s. 1d.* to 1*s.*, and by allowing the sugar of China to come into this country duty free.

Mr. GIBSON would take leave to say a few words in reply to the observations of the hon. gentleman who had a short time previously addressed the house, the hon. member for Knaresborough, and he could assure the hon. gentleman that, whatever he might think to the contrary, his speeches had tended very much to promote the cause the Anti-Corn-law League had at heart. If the hon. gentleman thought that the sense of the country was against the repeal of the corn-laws, why did he not convene public meetings and convince the people of the fallacy of the arguments of the advocates of total repeal? He maintained that the corn-laws could be no longer supported. The right hon. baronet might discuss alterations in the sliding scale or a fixed duty, but the people would be satisfied with nothing short of a total and entire repeal. He trusted that the hint thrown out by the right hon. baronet in the course of his speech would be fully carried out, and that the next change would be a total and radical one, a bold and comprehensive one, that would settle the question for ever. (Cheers.) He trusted the right hon. baronet would carry out these principles ere long, and he felt satisfied that it would ultimately tend to the benefit of the agricultural interest.

Mr. FERRAND begged to ask whether the hon. gentleman had read the evidence given before the payment of wages committee? That would show that his statements had been fully borne out.

Mr. GIBSON explained.

Mr. BROTHERTON bore testimony to the continued depression of the manufacturing industry of the country. The distress was increasing, and could no longer be denied, and it was time for Parliament to devise some remedy for it. He cared not from what side of the house propositions of that nature would come, but whenever they were brought forward, or by whatever party, they should receive his most zealous and cordial support.

Mr. G. BANKES regretted to say that the state of the population of the county with which he was connected (Dorset) was extremely wretched; he trusted that it would be found that there was some exaggeration in the statements that had been made in the course of the present debate. He had no wish whatever to array the power or the might of the landed interest against that of the manufacturers—if he had used such language it was in no invidious sense, because he was firmly convinced that the interests of the one party were bound up in those of the other, and that the country would best prosper under their combined influence. He believed the proceedings of that self-constituted and most unconstitutional body, the Anti-Corn-law League, had done more than anything else to produce the present distress.

Mr. SERGEANT MURPHY said that it had not been his intention to address the house; but, as the hon. member for Dorsetshire had made accusations against the hon. and learned member for Cork, he could not refrain from saying that it might be better taste if the hon. member had withheld his statements and charges until the hon. and learned member was in his place to answer them. Much had been said of the distress and patience of the people of England, and much credit had been attributed to them on that account; but nothing was mentioned in the speech from the throne of the distress and patience of the people of Ireland, who had required not even the exertion of the constitutional resources of the authorities to enforce tranquillity and order among them. The noble lord the Secretary for the Colonies had said that there was at present an anomalous state of things in Canada. He for his own part rejoiced at it. He rejoiced that those men who had heretofore been proscribed had been exalted to power and official station in Canada. But had such a course been pursued in Ireland? It had not. All the official appointments in that country were made from the ranks of those who had always been the bitterest enemies of the popular cause. In common with all other persons he rejoiced in the successes which had been obtained in India, but he could not agree with the noble lord, who stated that all the acts of the Governor-General were conducive to the highest honour of this country.

Dr. BOWRING defended the speech made by the hon. and learned member for Cork at Liverpool, and thought it a most instructive one. With respect to the Afghan war he (Dr. Bowring) was of opinion that that war, both in its origin and progress, reflected no honour on the people of this country. A subject of deeper interest, however, was the distress which existed through the population of this country. He entreated the attention of the right hon. baronet to one fact, sufficiently illustrative of the misery which prevailed in this country. He found that in Bolton, for the year 1842, the number of individuals who received relief from the society for the protection of the poor was 15,296. The average income of those applicants who had been refused relief by the society was 1*s. 9*1/2*d.* per week, and the average income of those to whom relief had been granted amounted but to 9*1/2*d. per week.

Mr. MARK PHILIPS was surprised that so many people in this country had formed such sanguine expectations as to the prosperity and the advantages to be derived from the opening of the trade with China. He thought those hopes most delusive. He believed that we should be unable to force the trade in tea between this country and China, unless in the first place we reduced the taxes on sugar.

Captain PECHELL said that the debate ought not be allowed to close until the right hon. baronet gave a more explicit declaration as to the orders given with respect to the disposal of the cruisers on the coast of Africa; whether or not they should be exclusively confined to that coast.

Sir R. PEEL said that he should answer the gallant captain on a future occasion. With respect to a matter of so much importance, he did not wish to make any statements merely from memory, and without preparation.

The address was then agreed to; and a committee was appointed to draw up the resolutions.

The house adjourned at one o'clock.